Develop Israel with Israel Bonds

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Keep Your Eyes Open
Beware of Imitations
Insist on Globus
GENUINE REFILL
GLOBUS

MARGINAL COLUMN

By ARTHUR BAEL SUPER

BECAUSE, according to some authorities, the recent lack of rain brought Jerusalem its most serious drought for some 2,000 years, the memory of Honi Hame'aggel, Onias the Rainmaker, has been evoked. This Honi was an Essene, reputedly a descendant of Moses himself, and had a reputation for great piety and for his prayers being invariably answered. He received the nickname, Hame'aggel, the Circumscriber, because in the famous ancient drought to which we are now referred, he drew a circle around himself and declared that he would not step out of it until rain fell. It did fall, and in such torrents that members of the Sanhedria had to implore him to intercede again for the floods to cease.

●

HONI'S end was a sad one. He had the misfortune to live at a time of bitter civil war in ancient Judea. After Queen Salome died, the two Hasmonean princes, Hyrcanus and Aristobolus, struggled for the throne. Aristobolus, fortified within the Temple mount citadel, was sorely besieged by Hyrcanus. There was a deadlock, with neither side making headway, Hyrcanus's soldiers had an idea. They sought out Honi, dragged him from his cave into Hyrcanus's camp, and tried to force him to pray that the resistance of Aristobolus should collapse. He did pray; but the words he uttered proved to be his doom. He said: "Oh Almighty God; since those within the citadel and those without are equally the children of Thy people, accept Thou the prayers of neither party!" The enraged soldiers stoned him to death.

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THERE is another tradition which credits the miracle man with a more peaceful but no less tragic end. He is said to have fallen asleep for 70 years. When he awoke, no one recognised him as the famous Honi and in despair, he himself prayed for death and his petition was granted. But the makers of legends could not leave well enough alone. Some say that this same Honi went to sleep at the time of the destruction of the First Temple and did not awake until after the building of the Second. "That one," said my daughter when I told her this tale, "I just don't believe."

●

THE story of Honi raises again the whole vexed question of the efficacy of prayer. Why should it be necessary to remind a Wise and Omniscient Providence of the need to send rain in its due season? People who live close to nature, as our ancestors did, worked out a moral equation between right conduct and the giving of rain in its due season. One of the basic prayers, recited immediately after the twice daily affirmation of the *Shema Yisrael*, the proclamation of the nexus between Israel and the Oneness of God, quotes the verses in Deuteronomy (XI, 13-14) "...if ye shall hearken diligently to My commandments which I command thee this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, that I will give the rain of your land in its season... that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine and thine oil." This in itself was progress and a rationalization. It took the nation a great moral stride beyond the ancient superstition whereby peoples cowered before the caprice of the gods who might or might not be appeased by rites which had no moral significance whatsoever.

●

SOME elements in the community in the recent drought also prayed for rain, in the sincere belief that their prayers would be answered. Others looked upon their devotions with a certain cynicism mingled with a sneaking sympathy and hope. Others just grimly prepared their accounts for drought damage and gave earnest and almost prayerful consideration to the question of which authority they might with most advantage present it to and how they might best press their claims. All this was a matter of individual approach. There was one manifestation, however, which gradually became apparent throughout the tense period of the drought. This was the feeling of understanding and communion which grew up in the nation through the realization of how dependent the fortunes of the country were upon the success of the crops and the coming of the rains. It became the topic of conversation everywhere, almost rivalling the Bible Quiz of last year.

●

IT is difficult to define just where secular values and cares blend into more spiritual ones. A threat of external danger, like foreign aggression, produces a temporary tension which welds a people together. But it is not as enduring as the understanding that begins to grow up when a whole people realises through the play of the immutable forces of nature how closely knit its destinies are, how the small patch of earth they inhabit ties them together in a common fate, and therefore how important it is that they should develop the social values and ideals that will give this community of destiny expression in every facet of the business of day-by-day living.

Tel Aviv, January 8.

Black Mission Said Success

CAIRO (Reuter). — Mr. Eugene Black, President of the World Bank, has cabled for a British delegation to come to Cairo following his talks here on Anglo-Egyptian financial differences, a U.A.R. Ministry of Economy spokesman said on Thursday.

The spokesman added that Mr. Black was awaiting a reply from Britain which would determine the date of the delegation's arrival.

Earlier, Cairo newspapers had reported the talks had been completed successfully, and that the British delegation, headed by Sir Denis Rickett, was already on its way.

In London, the Foreign Office announced it is studying a report from Mr. Black, but did not disclose any details.

Galilee Farmers' Fears Allayed

Jerusalem Post Staff

Steady rain throughout Galilee on Thursday swept away farmers' fears of heavy crop failure, but the more scattered rainfall in the south failed to change the situation there appreciably.

Settlements in the western and northern Negev reported they had received no rain, and what fell on Wednesday was insufficient for the needs of their crops. Farmers in the Lachish and Ashkelon areas said the rain would save some of their grain fields should more follow within a week.

There were sporadic showers in Jerusalem during the day, and it drizzled for some time during the night. In Tel Aviv there was intermittent rain with cold, gusty winds throughout the day. Kerosene vendors had a busy day with long queues.

On Mt. Canaan, 31.2 mm. of rain was registered, more than twice the amount of the previous day. Up to Thursday in the southern regions rainfall was: Yad Mordechai, 24 mm., Bror Hayil, 23 mm., Ashkelon, 25 mm., Nir Am, 30 mm., Nahal Oz, 15 mm.

The Meteorological Service forecast for the week-end partly cloudy weather with scattered showers in the northern and central regions. Temperatures will be up appreciably.

From the Old City of Jerusalem, news agencies reported that the heavy rainfall stopped all air traffic there on Wednesday.

Danny Kaye arrived in Israel by El Al Britannia from Paris shortly before midnight on Thursday to attend the Israel premiere in Tel Aviv of his latest film "Me and the Colonel." Among the large number of people at the airport to greet him was Mr. Teddy Kollek, Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office.

DROUGHT VICTIMS MARCH IN BRAZIL

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuter) —Hordes of starving drought victims with emaciated children are marching into towns in Northeast Brazil seeking food and work, according to radio reports reaching here.

One report said: "Mobs stumbling and staggering with hunger and thirst are marching on several towns in the north-eastern states, dragging skeleton-like children by withered hands."

Two thousand hungry country people are reported threatening to invade Quixada, which, with other towns in Ceara state, has appealed to the central government for emergency relief in the form of food and clothing. The north-eastern towns have also asked for militia to help protect them against invasion and the sacking of their scanty food supplies by starving mobs.

Some 4,000 famished victims of the drought, known as flagellantes (the Beaten Ones) invaded Canindé city early last month, sacking stores and homes in search of food. The government later sent three shiploads of supplies to the stricken area.

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and extends its sympathy to the bereaved family and associates.

BONN CALLS OFF ASWAN MISSION

The West German Government, angered at the planned establishment of consular relations between the U.A.R. and East Germany, on Thursday postponed indefinitely the trip of a delegation which was to negotiate German participation in the Aswan Dam project.

At the same time an official spokesman in Bonn said the West German Ambassador in Cairo, Dr. Walter Becker, was instructed to seek an interview with Abdul Nasser to notify him of the "annoyance" of his Government over the plan for the establishment of consular relations with East Germany.

The plan was announced in Cairo on Wednesday by East German Premier Otto Grotewohl, who is on a tour of the Middle East.

An Egyptian spokesman said on Thursday that the Grotewohl-Nasser talks concerned economic and commercial relations; but he did not mention the agreement to establish consulates.

'No Longer Urgent'

The West German delegation intended to negotiate German participation in the Aswan project on the basis of an offer by a group of German companies to invest 200m. marks ($47m.) in the scheme. The Bonn spokesman said the mission's trip was postponed because "it is no longer of pressing importance."

West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer is sensitive to signs of even partial recognition of the East German regime, and his Government has repeatedly threatened to break off diplomatic relations with any country recognizing it.

Grotewohl arrived in Baghdad from Damascus on Thursday for a three-day stay as the guest of the Iraqi Government.

An official Iraqi spokesman said that the Iraqi Government invited Grotewohl at the latter's express wish to visit the country during his Mideast tour. The spokesman added that Iraq had no intention of establishing diplomatic relations with East Germany. *(UPI, Reuter)*

Fanfani and Nasser To Cooperate

CAIRO (Reuter). — Abdul Nasser and the Italian Prime Minister, Mr. Amintore Fanfani, have reached agreement "regarding the consolidation of security and world peace" according to U.N. principles, it was announced in Cairo on Thursday.

A joint communique said the two leaders, in their talks on Wednesday, also expressed a desire to consolidate their relations and cooperation with each other.

Mr. Fanfani and U.A.R. Foreign Minister Mahmoud Fawzy on Thursday signed an agreement on cultural cooperation and exchanges.

The Nasser-Fanfani communique listed facilities granted to Italians in Egypt, including the promise of immediate issue of visas to those wishing to return.

It also referred to economic cooperation and said Italy would export 130,000 tons of wheat to Egypt and facilitate the import of Egyptian cotton.

The communique announced that the two sides had agreed to hold periodic meetings to exchange views on issues of mutual interest.

At a press conference later, Mr. Fanfani, when asked about Israel, said he had not discussed the subject with Nasser. But, he added, "Israel is a reality, and it is good politics to recognize realities so long as this does not conflict with peace."

He denied that he had attempted to mediate between the U.A.R. and France.

Mr. Fanfani is due in Athens on Friday for a two-day official visit as the guest of the Greek Government.

E. German Threat To Berlin Routes

BERLIN (UPI). — The East German government notified Russia officially on Thursday that it would accept control of all Berlin's approach routes along which the Western Powers supply their forces here.

A note handed to Soviet Ambassador G. M. Pervukhin said East Germany would take over control of the land and air routes running to the city through East German territory. The note was in answer to a Soviet note of November 27 proposing West Berlin be made a free, demilitarized city.

The East German reply denounced the Western occupation of the city in the harshest terms and showed no sign that the Communists had backed down on the original Soviet demand that the West quit Berlin.

It said the Western powers could negotiate with the East Germans over the use of the travel routes.

The West has refused to recognise East Germany and told the Soviets that they will not deal with the East Germans.

TITO IN BURMA

RANGOON (Reuter).— President Tito of Yugoslavia arrived on Thursday for a two day visit to Burma. He called on Prime Minister General Ne Win for talks which will be resumed on Friday.

He is due to leave for India on Saturday.

Eisenhower: 'Be Polite to Mikoyan'

WASHINGTON (Reuter). — President Eisenhower on Thursday appealed for an end to demonstrations against Soviet First Deputy Premier Anastas Mikoyan and asked Americans to show their "good manners."

Mr. John Hagerty, the White House press secretary, told a press conference that Mr. Eisenhower had read how demonstrators in Cleveland had met Mr. Mikoyan with stones and eggs.

He said: "The President hopes that wherever he goes in this country, Mr. Mikoyan will be met with the courtesy Americans traditionally show visitors from abroad. The President wants Mr. Mikoyan to see the real America, so that when he returns home he will be able to carry an accurate picture of our good manners, as well as our strength, our confidence and determination in the cause of freedom and peace."

When Mr. Mikoyan arrived in Detroit on Thursday he was met by pickets protesting against his visit.

At a luncheon given in his honour at Cleveland on Wednesday, Mr. Mikoyan said that the way to end the cold war and create peace and prosperity between the U.S. and Russia was by dissolving trade barriers and allowing goods to flow between both nations.

Maccabi T.A. Beat Polish Hoopsters

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HOLON. — The Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team on Thursday night beat the visiting Polish selected 80-47 after trailing half-time 22-25.

This was the visitors' fifth and final game of their tour, and the only one which they failed to win.

Some 1,200 spectators saw the match at the Hapoel stadium.

Thirteen minutes after the start, play was postponed for an hour because of rain.

Two minutes before the end of the game the Polish referee, Mr. A. Gwardo, left the field after disagreeing with a decision of the Israeli referee, Mr. B. Sperling, who had awarded a penalty goal to the home side.

The visitors continued playing, however, until the final whistle.

4 Migs Swept From Negev

TEL AVIV. — Israel Mystères at lunchtime on Thursday intercepted and chased off four Egyptian Mig17 fighters, which had penetrated Israel air space to within 25 kilometres of Beersheba, the Army spokesman announced.

All the Israel planes returned to base safely.

The four Migs crossed from Sinai and were flying towards Beersheba when intercepted. Two of them immediately turned and made off, and a short dogfight in and out of the clouds took place with the remaining two intruders before they too flew back to Egyptian air space.

Nineteen days ago, Israel Mysteres shot down one of eight Mig17 which crossed over the Negev.

Cairo Radio claimed that two Israel planes were shot down by U.A.R. fighters in an air battle. The radio was quoting an army communique.

The communique said six Israel planes crossed the border and were intercepted by four U.A.R. fighters.

War Crimes Trials For Batista's Men

HAVANA. — Fidel Castro, Cuba's victorious rebel leader, arrived on Thursday at the gates of the capital with his soldiers forming a six-mile procession behind him.

Hundreds of cars packed with wildly cheering Cubans joined the procession. The streets along his route were lined with hundreds of thousands of people.

Provisional President Manuel Urrutia's regime was meanwhile carrying out plans for swift war crimes trials against leading followers of ousted President Batista.

At least 20 police and military officers have already been executed by the rebel forces following courts martial. Another 20 Batista followers have been reported executed by rebel militia men without trials.

There are more than 1,300 suspected adherents of Batista held at present in the Greater Havana area alone, for investigation and possible presentation to "war crimes tribunals."

They include 300 police, 400 members of the army, and 100 persons held by militia of the University Students Federation (FEU). The army and police prisoners range in rank from private to major-general. The students' prisoners are mostly civilians denounced by their compatriots. *(Reuter, UPI)*

(Masters of Cuba — Page 4)

Israel Among First To Recognize Cuban Gov't

Israel was among more than half-a-dozen countries which on Wednesday announced their recognition of the new Cuban Government under President Manuel Urrutia.

The other countries were the U.S., Britain, France, Holland, Spain, the U.A.R. and West Germany.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem, announcing Israel's recognition, gave the text of a cable sent by Mrs. Golda Meir to the Cuban Foreign Minister. It said:

"I have the honour to notify Your Excellency that the Government of Israel will be happy to maintain the relations of understanding and true friendship with the Cuban Republic which have always existed between the two countries.

"The Government of Israel would also like to express its warmest good wishes for the welfare and progress of the noble and generous Cuban people."

16 Members of Family Die in Oklahoma Fire

BOSWELL, Oklahoma (Reuter). — Sixteen members of a Negro family died in a fire at their small four-roomed house here on Thursday.

The victims were identified as Mrs. Ara Baroner, her 10 children and five nieces and nephews. Police said Mr. Baroner was away on a hunting trip.

A child's body had been pushed out of a window in an apparent attempt to save it. All the other bodies were on or near a bed in a room which had no door leading outside.

The fire apparently spread from two wood-burning stoves, police said.

Near Kitchener, Ontario, a father and his three children were killed on Wednesday when a lorry in which they were travelling was struck by a goods train.

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Debre Forms Right-Centre Gov't; Soustelle, Murville, Pinay Stay

President de Gaulle Calls For Return to Glory

PARIS. — General Charles de Gaulle was on Thursday installed as the first President of France's Fifth Republic, which was brought into being after his return to political power last June.

One of his first acts after being installed was to appoint M. Michel Debré, hitherto Justice Minister, as the country's new Premier.

General de Gaulle, 67, took over as the new Head of State at a ceremony in the red and gold reception hall in the Elysée Palace attended by M. René Coty, the outgoing President.

Before his official investiture, a proclamation was read by M. René Cassin, chairman of the Provisional Constitutional Committee, formally announcing the results of the Presidential election in which the General received 78 per cent of the votes of the electoral college.

In a stirring inaugural speech, the new President pledged himself to restore to France her past glories. "In the majestic character of this ceremony, the renovated institutions of the Republic and the new institutions of the community enter into force."

As a 21-gun salvo boomed out on the banks of the Seine, General de Gaulle said: "The destiny of France — these words evoke the heritage of the past, the obligations of the present, and the hope of the future.

"Since France established its name and the French state... in Paris almost 1,000 years ago, our country has been through much, sometimes in sorrow and sometimes in glory. It has overcome sturdily innumerable ups and downs... in the course of the past half century it has suffered the most serious wounds and upheavals of its history.

"But here we suddenly find the chance to emerge from our doubts, from our deviations and our humiliations."

The new President then spoke of "bringing life to this magnificent institution that is France," and stressed the importance of the new links between Metropolitan France and the African members of the Community.

"A place of choice is reserved for the Algeria of tomorrow, pacified and transformed," he added. "What a road to progress is open to Frenchmen and their African brothers."

M. Coty, in a short address, said: "The first among Frenchmen is henceforth the First Man of France. By turning over to him the responsibility of this supreme residence, I am proud to renew the homage which I have expressly desired to pay him in the name of the forever grateful motherland."

General de Gaulle and M. Coty lunched together at the Elysée Palace and later drove to the Arc de Triomphe where the new President rekindled the sacred flame on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

M. Coty then left to return to his home in Le Havre, Normandy, while his successor rode down the bedecked Champs Elysées to his new official residence.

The General, who is France's 17th President, becomes, under the new constitution, the strongest French Head of State since Napoleon III died in 1873. *(Reuter, UPI)*

Malraux Gets 'Culture' Post

PARIS (Reuter). — M. Michel Debré, 48 year-old leader of the Gaullist Union for a New Republic, who was appointed Prime Minister by President de Gaulle, announced on Thursday night the composition of his Cabinet.

De Murville — Malraux

After seeing Gen. de Gaulle, M. Debré said he would present his Government to the National Assembly next week, probably on Thursday.

He announced that M. Jacques Soustelle (U.N.R.) would be Minister-Delegate Attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

The rest of the Cabinet is as follows:

Foreign Minister, M. Maurice Couvre de Murville (a career diplomat—unchanged)

Finance and Economy, M. Antoine Pinay (Conservative — unchanged).

Interior, M. Jean Berthoin (Radical).

Ministers of State, M. Felix Houphouet-Boigny (Leader of the African Democratic Rally, A.D.A.); M. Louis Jacquinot (Conservative); M. Robert Lecourt (Popular Republican); and M. André Malraux (non-Parliamentarian).

Justice, M. Edmond Michelet;

Armed Forces, M. Pierre Guillaut;

Education, Mr. André Boulloche;

Public Works and Transport, M. Robert Buron.

Industry and Commerce, M. Jeanneney;

Health, M. Chonot.

Overseas and Atoms

M. Debre said that M. Soustelle would be responsible for the overseas Departments of France, the affairs of the Sahara and Overseas Territories, and for atomic energy, under the Prime Minister.

M. Lecourt would co-ordinate the action of French Ministries in their relations with the states of the French Community.

M. Malraux would be responsible for arts, letters, architecture and the cinema, and in addition would coordinate government action in the cultural field.

Under a decree published here on Thursday, a space research committee is to be established as part of the Prime Minister's office. It will study France's resources for space research, submit plans for space programmes to the Prime Minister, and direct the programmes decided upon.

In a brief statement after his interview with President de Gaulle, M. Debré emphasized the grave responsibilities and severe obligations laid upon him as head of the first Government of the new Republic and added:

"While remaining herself, France must remould herself. At the same time she must renew and animate her great works — Algeria, the overseas Departments, the Sahara, and the great new works which make up the Community. Finally, she must in Europe and the world resume her role of authority and responsibility.

"The work accomplished by the Government presided over by General de Gaulle is considerable. The Government cannot do better than continue it."

(Maurice Carr on Debré—Page 4)

248 REBELS SLAIN IN ALGERIAN BATTLE

ALGIERS (Reuter). — French forces including crack paratroops have killed 248 Algerian insurgents and captured 12 in a three-day battle in the rugged Kabylie Mountain range, east of here, military authorities said on Thursday.

Fighting is continuing near Tizi Ouzou, in the centre of the region.

The operation was officially described as one of the most important since the Moslem Nationalist insurrection began more than four years ago.

96 Africans Detained After Congo Riots

LEOPOLDVILLE, Belgian Congo (Reuter). — Ninety-six Africans are still in custody following this week's riots here in which 42 Africans were killed and 208 injured, the Governor of Leopoldville, M. Bomans, told a press conference on Thursday.

Among those held is M. Kabavubu, president of the Abako African political movement, whose unauthorized meeting sparked off the riots. According to unconfirmed reports, a total of 11 leaders of the movement have been arrested.

Over 100 Africans and 15 Europeans were reported to be still in hospital as a result of the rioting.

In Brussels, the Chamber of Representatives voted on Thursday night to send an all-party parliamentary commission of enquiry to Leopoldville immediately to investigate the causes of the riots there and report back in three months at the latest.

Rising in Mongolia Report Denied

MOSCOW (Reuter). — The Mongolian news agency has issued a statement denying foreign reports of an insurrection in Mongolia.

The statement quoted by TASS in a despatch on Wednesday from Ulan Bator, the Mongolian capital, said that reports of "numerous risings in Mongolia, one of which was alleged to have been led by the Prime Minister himself, were circulated by Chiang Kai-shek news sources."

"These sources alleged that Soviet troops were used to suppress the insurrection. They also said that 90,000 Mongols were killed and a further 110,000 imprisoned. These allegations are completely invented," the Mongolian news agency added.

'Agitators' Said Held in Morocco

RABAT (Reuter). — Arrests of "rebels" and "agitators" were reported here on Thursday following the expiry of King Mohammed's ultimatum to them to submit to Government authority.

The organ of the ruling Istiklal Party "Al Alam," said bands of rebels had been arrested in Northern Morocco and the mass of the people there had returned to their homes. One agitator was still moving among the tribes "inciting them to disobedience."

Sudanese to Bonn For Arms Production Study

A Sudanese military delegation is to go to Bonn next week for an 18-month training course in West German arms factories, ANA reported on Thursday. On their return, the members will form the nucleus of a team of experts to supervise the erection of an arms factory in Khartoum.

Further delegations are to go to Bonn for the same purpose in April and August.

Civil Servants to See B-G Today on Wages

Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion is meeting a delegation of the Senior Government Officials Council (Grades 1-5) in Hakirya in Tel Aviv at 9 a.m. on Friday to discuss the demands of the 700 administrators for higher wages.

Council circles in Jerusalem stated on Thursday that if Mr. Ben-Gurion and Mr. David Rosolio, the Civil Service Commissioner, do not agree to meet their demands, the officials would go through with their scheduled three-day walkout commencing this Sunday.

The Grade 6 administrators, who are not included in the Council, are calling a general meeting of all their members on Sunday morning in Jerusalem to discuss what steps to take to press their own demands for higher wages.

'Copter Rescues Injured Soldier

By PAUL KOHN, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV.—A daring night operation by an Israel Air Force Sikorsky helicopter on Tuesday night rescued a badly injured soldier who had fallen over the precipice of a deep wadi in the central Negev, and was stranded there, unable to move, for nearly 12 hours.

The 19-year-old soldier, Amos, fell 15 metres into the wadi during training. He was caught on a ledge of the slope, another 15 metres above the bed of the wadi. His thigh was fractured in the fall, and he remained in the position in which he came to rest on the ledge. A second soldier, who was with him at the time of the accident, at 10 a.m. immediately set out to get help.

The pilots of the helicopter, Seren Eli and Seren Shlomo, who described to newsmen their two-hour search in the dark for the isolated soldier, said they received the S.O.S. message at their Air Force base at 6.45 p.m., and within minutes were in the air on their way to the location. They arrived on the scene at about 7.45 p.m., "but we could not see a thing."

Flying at 2,000 ft., (the mountains in the area reach to a height of 2,500 ft.), they eventually spotted lights. "Slowly and carefully, we hovered over them and landed. We found that they belonged to a group also searching for the soldier," the pilots said. They returned to pick up the soldier's mate, and also took into the helicopter a doctor, a nurse and a mechanic. The soldier directed the 'copter along the 20-metre-wide wadi.

Suddenly, at 9 p.m., they saw a torch flashing in the wadi, and landed a few metres from it. Amos was hauled down from the ledge and laid on a stretcher. The doctor gave first aid treatment during the flight back to Tel Hashomer Hospital, where Amos' condition was reported improved on Thursday night.

Earlier, a Piper cub plane had dropped a first aid kit and supplies in the area, but Amos could not move to get them.

Expanding Oil Storage in Eilat

EILAT. — Preparations are now going on for expanding oil storage facilities here, in connection with the expected doubling of the diameter of the pipeline to Beersheba.

Earth-moving work is being carried out by Mekorot and the Harish Company.

AFTER MIDNIGHT

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karameh told a Cairo Radio correspondent Thursday night "the Lebanon is on the way to recognizing the Provisional 'Government' of Algeria."

The leader of the West German parliamentary delegation to Iraq said Thursday his government would provide Iraq with technical assistance for its five-year development programme.

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Social & Personal

The President and Mrs. Ben-Zvi on Thursday visited the "Exhibition of the Revolt" in Tel Aviv, where they were received by the Exhibition Committee and members of the Herut Party Executive.

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The Minister of Education and Culture, Mr. Z. Aranne, on Thursday received Mr. Dennil Kingson Freeth, M.P. (Cons.)

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The Minister of Burma to Israel, U Tin Maung Gyi, on Wednesday met the Executive Committee of the Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce in Tel Aviv, to discuss the possibilities of extending trade relations between Burma and Israel.

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The Swedish Ambassador, Mr. Osten Lundberg, on Thursday visited Eilat and vicinity.

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Archbishop Georges Hakim held a reception on the occasion of the Christian festivals at his residence in Haifa yesterday.

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The Israel Ambassador to France, Mr. Ya'acov Tsur, will speak on "Franco-Israel Relations" at the Jerusalem Journalists Club at 8.45 p.m. on Saturday.

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Mr. Yosef Sapir, M.K. will speak on "Facing the Economic Changes in Europe" at the Haifa Maritime Club at 1 p.m. today. Reservations by phone, 2054.

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The Israel and British Commonwealth Association's Haifa Branch invites members and friends to a reception for the Ambassador of Ghana, Dr. William M.Q. Halm, at 8.30 p.m. on Monday at the Zion Hotel. Mrs. Pamela Wood will give a vocal recital, accompanied by Miss Rose Hurst.

Nursing Group Marks 25th Anniversary

HAIFA. — The 25th anniversary of the Nurses Association was celebrated here at the May Cinema on Wednesday night, with the Foreign Minister, Mrs. Golda Meir, among those attending.

Veterans spoke of the growth of the profession, which now includes 700 nurses in the city, from the not-too-distant past when there was just one hospital and one clinic serving all Haifa.

Mrs. Meir recalled having been a patient in the Jezreel Valley's first hospital at Ein Harod, and praised the nursing profession for the one quality that had not changed: "The attitude of love, devotion to duty, and the readiness to help at all times."

VIENNA CONTEST FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

A Haydn-Schubert music competition for pianists and singers will be held in Vienna from May 21 to December 31 this year, it is announced by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Candidates between the ages of 17 and 30 may submit their applications until April 15. Details may be had by applying on Sundays or Fridays to Mr. E. Amiran, Supervisor of Music Instruction, Ministry of Education and Culture, 6 Rehov Urbach, Tel Aviv.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

TODAY

JERUSALEM: Tajar, 33 Keren Kayemet, 2293.

TEL AVIV: Abramsky, 43 Allenby, 63826; Beindir, 51 Ahad Ha'am, 63851. Jaffe, 172 Ben Yehuda, 24543. Kastel, 147 Ibn G'virol, 22116. Baruch, Hatikva Qtr., 23105. **JAFFA:** Galinka, 19 Rehov 4. **RAMAT GAN:** Granna, 80 Bialik, 72327. **PETAH TIKVA:** Mayerhon, 34 Stampfer. **REHOVOT:** Levinsky, 170 Herzl, 95-1091. **REHON:** Strahilevich. **HOLON:** Brin, Rehov Sokolow. **NATANYA:** Hanasi.

HAIFA: Paiss, 31 Joseph, 6014.

TOMORROW

JERUSALEM: Abramowitz, 21 King George, 4973. Mekor Baruch, 31 Tschlenow, 2394.

TEL AVIV: (Day): Hagan David, 25 Allenby, 63426. Kreisler, 121 Sokolov, 63433. Hakirya, 19 Ibn G'virol, 24688. Blumenfeld, 206 Dizengoff, 23049. Sanitas, 89 Ibn G'virol. Siva, Hatikva Qtr., 23409. **JAFFA:** Sa'ad, 24 Sderot Yerushalayim, 81445. (Night): Schwartz, 17 Allenby, 24553. Ahva, 165 Dizengoff, 24717. Moskowitz, 25 King George, 63660. Avrahami, 9 Eytinger near Central Bus Station. Ziva, Hatikva Qtr., 23409. **JAFFA:** Sa'ad, 24 Sderot Yerushalayim, 81445. **RAMAT YITZHAR:** Hasharon, 23 Yerushalayim, 82046. **PETAH TIKVA:** Briut, 19 Hovevei Zion. **REHOVOT:** Levinsky, 170 Herzl, 95-2091. **REHON:** Strahilevich. **HOLON:** Eikar Struma. **NATANYA:** Hanasi.

HAIFA: Hamisrah, 87 Herzl, 2211. Ahuza, 4 Horev, Mt. Carmel, 81164.

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

JERUSALEM: Dr. Mansoiri, 71 Bethlehem, 61457. Dr. Abelas, 19 Uzzishkin, 2668. Dr. Levinger, 32 King George, 4377.

TEL AVIV: Dr. Kisen, 5 Shimshon, 28765. Dr. Nat-Even, 35 Sheinkin, 28411. Dr. Weiss, 73 Dizengoff. Dr. Simon, 43 Sderot Keren Kayemet, 51974. **HOLON:** Dr. Dekor, Tel Giborim, Shikun Amami 15a.

JERUSALEM: Dr. Grunwald, 22 Yehoshua Bin-Nun, 42568. Dr. Mansoiri, 71 Bethlehem, 61457. Dr. Shor, 45 Rashi.

TEL AVIV: Same as Friday.

ISRAEL NATIONAL
OPERA
Opera House
1 Allenby Rd., Tel Aviv
MADAME BUTTERFLY
with Mahiba Sreebara
Tomorrow, Jan. 10, 8.30 p.m.
Mon., Jan. 12, 8.30 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 14, 8.30 p.m.
FLEDERMAUS
Sun., Jan. 11, 8.30 p.m.
NABUCCO
Tues., Jan. 13, 8.30 p.m.
Tickets at the Box Office (10-1, 4-6) Tel. 37765.

Arab Child Labour Almost Eradicated

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Child labour — employing children of 9-12 up to 13 hours a day for as little as IL6 a week or IL15 a month — is being eradicated among the Arab sector of the population, according to a report to the Ministry of Labour submitted by Mr. Mahmud Abbassi, a labour inspector, on his work among minority communities in the north.

He notes that since the Ministry began a full-fledged campaign in 1956 to step up enforcement of existing labour legislation, the shocking phenomenon of child labour has almost been entirely eliminated except for a small number of children employed in peddling or transport and occasionally in bakeries and shops.

The minimum age for legitimate employment is 14.

Enforcement of the labour laws was preceded by an explanatory campaign deliberating not only the law's restrictions but also its advantages. Nevertheless, when labour inspection became a reality, employers were surprised when called upon to conform to the regulations.

Girls Also Work

Since 1956, the situation has changed considerably for the better. More and more youths are applying for work through the labour exchanges, which guarantee minimum work conditions.

Applicants also included girls, the overwhelming majority of whom agreed to have their pictures taken and affixed to the booklets despite the fact that this normal requirement had been dropped in order not to offend Moslem sensibilities.

Among the adult working population, night baking had been almost entirely eliminated. An initial inspection trip produced 12 violators out of 18 bakeries. Subsequent trips showed only one offender or not even one.

The Ministry also managed to introduce the system of annual paid vacations, although this aroused considerable opposition. Nevertheless, of the 35 suits brought against employers, only two had to be brought to court.

Mr. Abbassi closed by noting that although much had been done in the field of enforcing labour legislation, "the road ahead was still long."

Case of Turkish Jew Released By Jordan Reopened by Police

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The strange case of Yitshak Karamani — the only known Israeli who was allowed to leave Jordan freely after crossing illegally into that country — has been reopened by Jerusalem Police.

The file has lain dormant since 1955, but the reason why the Jordanian authorities allowed Karamani to leave Jordan for Turkey — where Karamani was born 30 years ago — continues to puzzle Jerusalem police.

The case was reopened recently when a letter was received from Rabbi Ya'acov Melamed Cohen, headmaster of the Or Hehaim school, who asked if police could take steps to bring Karamani back to Israel so he could support his wife, Matuka, 35, and their two sons. The elder son, Meir, 7, attends the Or Hehaim school, while Yitzhak, 4½, attends an Agudat Yisrael kindergarten and nursery.

(The Jerusalem Social Welfare Department states that from its viewpoint it has many worse cases on its rolls. Mrs. Karamani works half-days as a cleaner at the Water Department. She lives with her parents who receive financial assistance. The boys' schooling is free.)

Reported Missing

The case was opened in March, 1954, when Karamani was reported "missing" from Shoval I in the Negev, where he and his family made their home. Police received convincing and corroborated proof that he had crossed into Jordan at Beit Safafa.

Nevertheless, the Jordanians, approached through the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission, denied all knowledge of him. They continued to deny knowledge even after the Turkish Consulate here, acting on instructions received from the Turkish Consulate in the Old City began to investigate whether Karamani was still a Turkish citizen.

Israel continued pressing fruitlessly for his return.

Suddenly, in June, 1955, the Jordanians informed the M.A.C. that although they had no record of Karamani, they knew of a person "one Hussein Qurmen," a Turkish Jew, who since he was also a Turkish citizen, had been released by them "and his present whereabouts are not known."

In October, 1955, Matuka got a letter from her husband in Turkey. He asked her to join him in Turkey. But Matuka, born in Iraq, refused, saying she preferred to stay in Israel with her parents.

The case remained closed until Rabbi Cohen's letter arrived. Police believe they cannot bring Karamani back, as much as they would like to — for they are very interested in solving a four-year-old puzzle... what Karamani said to the Jordanians to effect his release, and why the Jordanians believed him.

Mutton on Hoof Cheap; Expensive at Butchers'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

BEERSHEBA. — With Beduin sheep dying by the hundreds for lack of fodder — a result of the delayed rains — cattle dealers are offering as little as IL30 for a sheep which sold at IL100 a short time ago. There is some reluctance to buy even at this low price because of the abundance of meat on the market.

Nevertheless, butcher shops have not lowered prices. Mutton (with a large bone content) is still selling at IL4.500 per kg. (IL5.500 in Jerusalem) and beef at IL6 to IL6.500 per kg.

The Negev Military Governor, Sgan-Aluf P. Amir, on Wednesday described the situation of Beduin flocks as "catastrophic."

Interlock Blocks Speed Building

TEL AVIV. — Interlocking blocks that enable construction to proceed at nearly three times the normal pace were on Wednesday demonstrated at the Housing Division of the Labour Ministry in the Kirya here.

They are manufactured by the Tashliv Interlocking Concrete Products Company, set up three months ago by South African and local capital to exploit a South African patent.

Blocks fitted together and locked into place by means of a cement mixture make a wall 23cm. thick, Mr. B. Cohen, Technical Manager of Tashliv said. The strength of the interlocking blocks has been proved to be greater than required by the building code in tests carried out by the Standards Institute.

The cost per square metre of wall is IL6.750, compared to IL7.800 in the case of conventional blocks.

Tashliv will set up a permanent plant at Ramle in two months time, and within a week will be able to operate two portable units that can manufacture 1,000 blocks a day, or 250 square meters of wall. The total investment in the firm is IL250,000, one third of it from South Africa.

Moreover, the replacement of skilled labour by unskilled will show very considerable saving in areas where skilled building workers at present have to be brought at considerable cost, Mr. Cohen added. He said that unskilled workers could be trained in a few hours to build a standard wall using the new type blocks.

GAS SUPPLIED TO 200,000

TEL AVIV. — Some 200,000 persons at present use gas in this country, but supplies and facilities could be made available for twice that number, Mr. Y. Abramski, of the Paz-gas management, told a press conference on Wednesday to mark the opening of the company's display of appliances at its Rehov Ramban showrooms.

He criticized the Government's tax policy which, he declared, treated gas as a luxury and imposed on it twice as big a levy per calorie, as on electricity, although the foreign currency outlay for gas was lower than for other fuels.

Mr. Abramski said that experiments had been carried out to supply gas centrally for apartment houses, with each flat having its own meter. The gas companies hoped to switch to this system in the future, but detailed plans had not yet been worked out.

Artist's sketch shows a new crew arriving at the Atlas space station 400 miles above the earth. The cutaway shows members of the crew already aboard the station.

U.S. Plans Space Station

SAN DIEGO, California (UPI). — America is capable of establishing a manned space station in outer space within five years, according to scientist Krafft Ehricke.

Mr. Ehricke, assistant to the technical director of Convair (Astronautics) Division of General Dynamics Corporation here, has proposed a plan which would enable the U.S. to put a station based on the Atlas intercontinental ballistics missile in outer space.

First step in establishing a permanent station in outer space, according to the Convair scientist, would be the placing of an Atlas missile in orbit 400 miles above the earth, to serve as the shell of the station.

Then, a supply vehicle and personnel carrier would be launched and guided to the satellite. Both these would be second-stage rockets boosted into space by Atlas missiles.

The personnel carrier would have two gliders, each carrying two men, in which the four-man crew of the space station would transfer to the station. The gliders then would be harnessed to the Atlas to serve as lifeboats.

Mr. Ehricke said crew exchange during construction and operation of the station would be carried out by similar gliders.

The scientist said the station could be completely fitted out and made operational by three cargo carriers.

The station itself would comprise four compartments for the four-man crew, a control room and laboratory, sleeping quarters, galley and recreation room and sanitary room.

Entrance to the rocket would be through an airlock in the side of the rocket shell.

Mr. Ehricke' design calls for the crew's living quarters and working area to be built into the empty propellant tanks after the missile is put into orbit.

No Permit for Oscar To Mark Todd's Grave

HOLLYWOOD (Reuter). — A spokesman for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said on Wednesday night that any attempt to mark Mike Todd's grave in Chicago with a nine-foot-high Oscar would be met with court action.

The late showman's brother, Mr. David Goldbogen, had announced that he was planning to erect over the grave a two-ton marble statue similar to the golden statuettes awarded each year for outstanding films and performances.

The spokesman for the Academy which awards the famed Oscars said Mr. Goldbogen's plan was "out of the question."

The Oscar was protected by copyright, he said. Permission to set it in the manner suggested had never been granted before "and will not be granted in this case."

Todd, whose film, "Around the World in 80 Days," was given an Academy award last year, died in a plane crash in Mexico last March.

Four Years for Assault On Welfare Official

TEL AVIV. — A four-year prison term was on Wednesday imposed by the District Court on Ya'acov Ben-Kaduri Avraham, 30, of Magdiel, who pleaded guilty to having intentionally inflicted grievous bodily harm on the Head of the town's Social Welfare Office, Mr. Yehezkel Sasson. The Court also ordered the prisoner to serve a seven-month suspended sentence imposed for a previous offence.

The prosecution said that Avraham had received a great deal of help from the Social Welfare Office in various forms. When the Office refused, however, to intervene in securing cancellation of a detention order which was issued against him for not paying IL15 owed to the Jewish Agency for his flat, Avraham threatened retribution. The next day, June 9, 1958, when he was travelling by taxi to the Magdiel *sta'bara*, he noticed that Mr. Sasson was sitting in front of him. When the other passengers got out, he slashed Mr. Sasson across the shoulder with a razor.

In handing down sentence, the Court, consisting of Judges Avlasser, Malchi and Csernobilsky, noted that incidents of attacks on public workers were on the increase and that the Court must deal severely with such cases in an effort to root out the evil.

KHARSAH Ceramics, Ltd., this week sent off the first consignment of a $160,000 order for sanitary ware to Turkey.

WANTED TO RENT
3-4-Room
Furnished Flat,
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Mrs. Simone Nathan,
Tel. 62-800.

Braves Shooting to Test Bank Clerks' Alertness

NEW YORK (Reuter). — When a man in dark glasses entered a Brooklyn bank on Wednesday and shouted "everybody lie down on the floor," the bank's eight employees dropped to the floor.

But one sounded a burglar alarm, and a guard pulled out a revolver before the man was recognized as Mr. Augustus Frose, 70, the bank's senior trustee.

As 20 detectives and police ran into the bank in response to the alarm, Mr. Frose said he wanted to test the alertness of the employees in sounding an alarm.

CHAGALL. — Marc Chagall, the noted painter, has been elected an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and its affiliate, the National Academy of Arts and Letters. Honorary membership is limited to 50 foreigners who have distinguished themselves in the arts.

League Leaders Play in Capital

By KEITH BEECHER

The National League leaders, Tel Aviv Maccabi, visit the Capital Saturday to play the local Hapoel and should draw the crowds. Jerusalem Hapoel lie in sixth spot, three points behind Maccabi, and will be fortunate to squeeze a point from the game against a side which has only let in two goals in seven weeks.

Meanwhile the most interesting game on the card will take place in Haifa, where the local Hapoel and Maccabi sides clash. Hapoel lie in third place, one point behind the leaders, with their opponents fourth and one point further away. I give Hapoel a one goal edge on their rivals for a win.

Second-placed Petah Tikva Hapoel, who achieved the distinction of defeating Tel Aviv Maccabi last week, the only eleven to take two points from the champions this season, look like getting two more from a Tel Aviv side this week, in this case Betar.

Petah Tikva Maccabi and Kfar Saba Hapoel, who foot the table, meet, with table-totter-uppers Kfar Saba so much in the doldrums without even one point to their credit, looking like victims for the eighth successive week. Tel Aviv Hapoel are away to Natanya Maccabi and should come away with at least one point, while Ramat Gan Hapoel must be favourites in their home encounter against Jaffa Maccabi.

In League A the top two, Rehovot Hapoel and Tel Aviv Hakoah, separated by one point, meet on the latter's pitch in what should be a dingdong match, which can go any way. Third-placed Bnei Yehuda, with the same number of points as Hakoah, seem booked for a certain win with Afula Hapoel, who foot the table here, as their visitors.

FIXTURES: National League: Hapoel Hap. vs. T.A. Mac.; Ramat G. Hap. vs. Jaffa Mac.; Petah T. Mac. vs. Kfar Saba Hap.; Natanya Mac. vs. T.A. Hap.; Hatikva Mac. vs. Hakoah Hap.; T.A. Betar vs. Petah T. Hap. League A: Hadera Hap. vs. Kfar Yehoshua; Bnei Yehuda vs. Afula Hap.; Rehovot Mac. vs. T.A. Shimshon; TA Hakoah vs. Rehovot Hap.; Kfar Saryahu Mac. vs. Kiryat M. Hap.; M. Yehuda Hap. vs. Hadera Mac.

More Cheap Cinema Matinees for Children

Negotiations for introducing occasional cheap matinee performances for schoolchildren in Tel Aviv and Haifa are in progress between a subcommittee of the Film Censorship Board and the respective municipalities, the Ministry of Education stated.

Performances for children are already being held in many parts of the country at which films recommended by the Board's special subcommittee are shown. Tickets cost from 250 to 300 pruta.

The subcommittee, headed by a Ministry of Education representative, works in agreement with the Ministries of Finance and Interior and local authorities.

LYDDA FLIGHTS

FRIDAY

DEPARTURES: Cyprus Airways 25 to Nicosia, Athens, Zurich and London at 0900. El Al 421 to Rome and Munich at 0930. Olympic Airways 601 to Athens, Rome, Paris and London at 0930. El Al 1020 to Athens, Paris, London and New York at 1800.

SATURDAY

ARRIVALS: Alitalia 463 from Rome at 2015. El Al 305 from New York, London, Paris and Rome at 2035. Cyprus Airways 24 from London, Zurich, Athens and Nicosia at 2250. TWA 742 from New York, Shannon, Frankfurt, Zurich, Rome and Athens at 0130.

Religious Services

Shabbat begins: Jerusalem 4.36; Tel Aviv: 4.31; Haifa: 4.31 and candles

Tonight: Jerusalem: 5.31; Tel Aviv: 5.30; Haifa: 5.30

Tomorrow:

Parshas: Va'era.

Haftara: Tachayaim (K), 2-24.

JERUSALEM

Yeshurun Synagogue: Tonight: Minha, 4.30 p.m. Arvit, 4.45 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.00 a.m. Minha, 4.30 p.m. Arvit, 5.30 p.m. Shabbat Shlomo: Tonight: 5.00 p.m. Tomorrow: 8.00 a.m. Tomorrow: 4.55 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.15 a.m.

Italian Synagogue (Hillel St.): Tonight: 4.30 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.00 a.m.

Mount Zion Synagogue: Shahrit, 8.15 a.m.

Hugim Le'Hitadrekut Hebrayim Medadim: Beit Hehalutzot, 16 Ibn Gvirol. Tonight: 5.00 p.m.

TEL AVIV

Tiferath Bey Congregation (9 Herman Cohen St.) Tonight: 4.30 p.m. Tomorrow morning: 8.30 a.m. Cantor: Leib Glantz.

Beit Israel (86 Rehov Dizengoff): Tonight: 4.45 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.30 a.m.

Ihud Shivat Zion (27 Rehov Ben Yehuda): Tonight: 4.45 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.15 & 8.15 a.m. Minha, 4.30 p.m.

Beit Ramono (3 Rehov Nathan Straus). Tonight: 4.45 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.00 a.m. Minha, 4.40 p.m.

Hugim Le'Hitadrekut Hebrayim Medadim (Keren Elif Mall of Shlomo Hamelech St.) Tonight: 5.00 p.m.

HAIFA

Merkaz Congregation (25 Herzel Sefer St., Ahuza): Shabbat: Shahrit, 9.00 a.m.

RAMAT GAN

Hatsiba Synagogue: Tonight: 4.55 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8 a.m.; Minha, 4.40 p.m. Arvit, 5.50 p.m.

Shifa Synagogue (Ohel Shem Gymnasium): Tonight: 4.55 p.m. Tomorrow: Shahrit, 8.30 a.m.

Tel Aviv Stock Market

JANUARY 8, 1960

Ass. Loans 1960/62 (1) (5%)	99½
6% Ozem Loan 59/61	97
Tel Aviv 6% Ass. Ser.	100
6% Ozem Loan	100
6% Tarsi Dollar (2)	100
6% Reg Sterling (2)	100
Dol. Loan Bonds 6% (2)	100
6% Dol. Bonds (2)	100
6% Dol. Bonds (2)	100
6% Lev. (2) Debs. (2)	100
6% Lev. (2) Debs. (2)	100
Pal. Elec. prof. sh. (Ass.)	100
6% Bonds 58/60 (2)	100
(2)110 (2)	
Sarna Shoresh	
6% Deb. 58/60 (2)	100
(2)110 (2)	
6% Deb. 59/61 (2)	100
(2)110 (2)	
Ipsorb 6% Deb. 59/61	100
Hacarmel 6% Deb. 59/61	100
Class "A" (2)	100
Class "B" (2)	100
Bazan 6% prof. ord. sh.	100
Bk. Leumi ord. sh.	100
Bezeq Savings Cert. '59	100
Bk. Leumi Investment	
Ord. sh. "B" reg.	100
Ata ord. "B" sh.	100
"Hardanah" ord. "B"	100
6% con. Debs. 59/61	100
"Tera" ord. sh.	100
Pal. Cold St. (IL50.-) reg.	110
Discr 4% debs. 58/60	100
Nir 5% pref. sh.	100
Gen. Mortg. 5th ord. sh.	100
4½% Debs. 61/63 (2)	100
I.L.D.C. ord. sh. reg.	100
Afr. Pal. Inv. ord. sh.	100
Melior ord. sh. reg.	100
Pal. Brewery 6% con. Debs	100
Azrieli Bajarano "B" (2)	100
Nesher 6% debs "A" 58/60	100
Pal. Paper "A" ord. sh.	100
Shell Gas Works	100
Debts ord. "C"	100
Jordan Exploration Co.	100
Ord. sh. reg.	
G.U.S.—Bazan Ltd.	
4½ debs 61/63 (bearer) (2)	100
Housing Loan, "A" 58/60	
4½% (bearer) (2)	100
Housing Loan, "C" 58/60	
6%reg. (2)	100
Clico Ltd.	
6% Deb. 61/64 (bearer)	100

Notes: a) purchasing price; b) selling price; c) ex-coupon; d) ex-dividend; e) ex-right; f) linked with $; g) linked with C.o.L.; z) in % of IL1,000.

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P S
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will begin on Jan. 13 and 14
1) Course for dressmakers (advanced and those specialising in ready-made dresses). Also for dresses made to measure. American-French system.
2) Sewing and cutting course for beginners.
LEONORE
72 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech, near Zoo, Tel Aviv.
Registration: 9-1; 4-8 daily.

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4-5 Room Luxury Flat
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6 Rehov Elhanan, Flat 8, Haifa.
(5—7 except Saturdays)

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2 storeys, 5 luxurious rooms, laundry room, well cared-for garden; centrally located in Ramat Gan.
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4 luxurious rooms, hall, next to Merkaz, for sale; IL36,000.
4 rooms, hall, in two-family house, for sale: IL28,000 or to let IL10,800. "Sigem" I. Samooli, 81 Rehov Herzl, Haifa. Tel. 6788.

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3½ ROOM
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completely furnished. Telephone, all appliances; beautiful 1 dunam garden; 25 minutes drive from Tel Aviv. Sale without furniture considered. Bargain for quick buyer.
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The United Nations is selling:
8 WILLYS STATION WAGONS
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Where to go

TODAY

• Meet the Israeli : — Tourists invited to meet Israelis at home. Information at Government Tourist Office, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa.

JERUSALEM

• Zoo : — Jerusalem Biblical Zoo. Today: 8-3.30. Tomorrow: 9-6.

• Exhibitions: — Permanent exhibition of antiquities. Special Exhibition: New excavations at Kabri, Rogilt, Kfar Truman and Ruhama. Department of Antiquities, 28 Rehov Shlomo Hamelech. Today: 9-1; tomorrow: 10-1.

Permanent exhibition of Jewish ceremonial art. Expressionism. Ceramics by Gertrud and Otto Natzler. Archaeological pieces. Samples of primitive sculpture. Bezalel Museum. Today: 9-1; tomorrow: 10-1.

Y. Raagour, (recently returned from Paris), oil and gouache paintings from France. Artists' House. Today and tomorrow: 10-1.

Exhibition of Oil Paintings by Olga Freudman-Rado. Gouaches by Ferro, Bat Yosef. Nora Art Gallery, 7 Mizmon Ave. Today: 10-1; 3-6. Tomorrow: 10-2. Closing January 15.

• Meet Jerusalem Artists: — Tonight and tomorrow night Tourists and members only Artists' House, 9.30 p.m.

• Tours:— Hebrew University conducted tour in English, daily at 12 noon, New University Campus. Spend a morning with Hadassah on a conducted tour starting at 9 a.m. Book for this tour by phoning 4061, Hadassah Club, Straus Health Centre.

• Recorded Concert: — Music to Inspire (with background scenes). Beethoven: "Emperor" Piano Concerto; Schumann: "Manfred"—Overture; Sarasate: Zigeunerweisen Op. 20, No. 1. Y.M.C.A., 8.30. Public welcome.

• Film Shows: — Israel Films daily, 11.30 Keren Hayesod Hall.

• Lectures:— Mr. Moshe Sophri: "Portion of the Week;" Mr. T. Ben-Hefets: "Meeting Immigrants on s.s. Theodor Herzl;" Mr. Y. Elipur: "The New Budget;" Beit Ha'am, 11 a.m.

TEL AVIV

• Zoological Gardens: — Open between 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

• Exhibitions:— Ya'acov Agam: "Paintings in Movement—Transformable Painting." Tel Aviv Museum. Today and tomorrow: 10-1. Admission Saturdays by tickets prepared in advance only.

Painters and Sculptors Gallery Hamilu House, 38 Rehov Weizmann, 10-1; 4-7.

• E.O.A. House:— Tourist Service (9 a.m.—1 p.m.). Symposium: "Should the Voters elect the Mayor?" 2.30.

• Tourist Service :— Visit Hadassah Club, 80 Rehov Hayarkon, Tel. 26220. Wizo Club, 91 Rehov Hayarkon, Tel. 26826. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

• Theatre:— Habimah, "Alay Kinor." 10 a.m.

HAIFA

• Tourist Service:— Hadassah Club, Youth Aliyah Offices, 32 Rehov Hehalutz, Tel. 67385.

• Entertainment: — Dulgan and Baumacher: "Zeh vi du gehst." Orah, 8.30.

KIRYAT HAIM

• Entertainment: — Les Ballets Africains de Keita Fodeba. Beit Haam, 8.30.

TOMORROW

JERUSALEM

• Music Programme: — Saturday Music Hour at Y.M.-C.A. at 10.30 a.m. with organ and these records: Beethoven: Sonata No. 14 in C-sharp Minor ("Moonlight"); Mozart: Serenade Nocturne No. 6 for two small orchestras. Public welcome.

TEL AVIV

• Exhibitions:— Paintings by Sarah Glickman-Faitlowitz. Artists' Pavilion, 9 Rehov Alharizi, 10-1.

• Concert: — Vincze Ilona and Edith Kraus will play works of Bach for 2 pianos. Museum, 8.30 p.m.

• Theatre: — Habimah: "Legitrata," 7, 9.30. Ohel: "Black Sabbath," 8. Cameri: "Tonight We Improvise," 7, 9.

• Israel National Opera: — "Madame Butterfly," 8.30.

HAIFA

• Exhibitions: — Oil paintings by Shmuel Bonneh. Opening today. Monthly exhibit of Israel Art: "The Bird of the Soul," Gouache by Alice Arbel. Municipal Museum, 10-1, 4-7.

• Recitals:— Paul Kelen: 4th Beethoven Programme. Beitunu Hall, 8.30 p.m.

KIRYAT HAIM

• Entertainment: — Dulgan & Baumacher: "Zeh vi du gehst." Hayovel Hall, 6.45, 9.15.

COMING EVENTS

ISRAEL NATIONAL OPERA
Sat. Jan. 16, "Madame Butterfly," 8.30.
Sun. Jan. 11, "Fledermaus," 8.30.
Mon. Jan. 12, "Madame Butterfly," 8.30.
Tues. Jan. 13, "Nabucco," 8.30.
Wed. Jan. 14, "Madame Butterfly, 8.30.

TEL-AVIV Cinema
After "THE YOUNG LIONS"
20th Century Fox brings you the problems of young couples...

HOPE WAGNER · DAVID WYNTER · DEFOREST HUNTER · JOANNE LANGE
Starting today — 2.15 p.m. Sat.: 7.15, 9.30
Weekdays: 3.30, 7.15, 9.30
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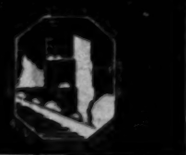
A Pleasant Evening
at the
—King David Bar—
with the famed
Willi Hanz Trio
Reasonable Prices

SUZI DORA
(formerly with Ninabella) takes pleasure in informing her clientele that she will open her
COSMETIC SALON
on the enlarged premises of the ESTHER SALON, 74 Rehov Ben Yehuda, Tel Aviv, on January 15.

Under the joint auspices of H.E. the Italian Ambassador, Marchese Revedin di San Martino, and Israel's Tenth Anniversary World Committee
GALA PERFORMANCE
FULL-SCALE OPERATIC PRODUCTION OF
VERDI'S "FALSTAFF"
TEL AVIV — Saturday, Feb. 7, 1960
Mann Auditorium at 8 p.m.
ALL STAR CAST FROM "LA SCALA," MILAN
with
FERNANDO CORENA as FALSTAFF
(Basso Buffo of NEW YORK METROPOLITAN OPERA)
THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Conducted by: CARLO MARIA GIULINI
Producer-Stage Designer: FRANCO ZEFFERELLI
Choir ★ Ballet
SALE OF TICKETS starts SUNDAY, January 11 at the Mann Auditorium Box Office, Rehov Ruberman (daily 10-1, 4-6; Fridays: 10-1). Prices from IL6 to IL20.
Proceeds to Musicians' Pension Fund
THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Today's Postbags

The Weather

FORECAST: Partly cloudy, with occasional scattered showers, mainly in North and Central Israel.

Outlook for Sabbath: Partly cloudy, with possible rain.

	A	B	C	D
Mt. Cana'an	69	8	0	12
Tiberias	72	9	17	17
Haifa Port	73	13	17	18
Natanya	73	10	18	17
Tel Aviv Kiryat	73	10	18	18
Tel Aviv Port	73	11	18	18
Lydda Airport	73	9	15	18
Jerusalem	72	4	0	14
Beersheba	66	7	14	17
Sdom	87	21	21	23
Eilat	89	9	19	21

(A) Humidity at 5 p.m. (B) Minimum temp. (C) Maximum wednesday. (D) Maximum temp. expected today.

RAINFALL (in mm.)

	A.	B.
Jerusalem	34.7	69.2
Acre	8.8	114.4
Haifa	3.6	112.6
Tel Aviv	7.4	69.9
Lydda Airport	13.5	77.7
Hasuy	23.4	117.4
Mt. Cana'an	13.7	174.0
Nazareth	8.2	126.4
Beersheba	4.2	39.1
Mishmar Ha'emek	15.7	160.1

A. Rainfall in mm. during the 24 hours up to 8 o'clock Thursday morning. B. Total since August 1

DEPARTURES

Mr. Shmuel Divon, the Prime Minister's Adviser on Arab Affairs, to Bombay, for a visit of several months to India under U.N. auspices, for a study of village communities. (by Air France).

ELIEZER SCHLASS and Paulina Reiter were on Thursday remanded for a week by Haifa Magistrate Miriam Verlinsky on a charge of running a brothel near the Central Carmel.

* * *

FOR STEALING a leather briefcase worth IL31, Isaac Gottman, 44, of Tel Aviv, was sentenced on Thursday to six months imprisonment by Magistrate Y. Trevisk of Tel Aviv.

Mapam Says Coalition Pact Violated

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Mapam Political Committee on Wednesday voiced its concern over the present rift between the three main labour parties.

The Committee also charged that there had been "deviations" from the agreement that governed the coalition. Some of them were said to be:

- The proposed increase in indirect taxation included in the '59/60 State Budget, which would be against the workers' interests.
- The proposed cuts in the Development Budget.
- Attempts were being made to deprive the Ministry of Development of its tasks and to limit the scope of its activities.
- The policies towards minorities and military government.
- The decision to ban the activities of youth movements on the premises of State schools.
- The attempts to introduce constituencies.

The Committee declared that it would nevertheless try to keep the coalition alive.

Worker Fights Firing By Sit-Down Strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A casual worker at the Fertilizers and Chemicals Company has begun a sit-down strike at the plant, to bring pressure on the management to retain him on the payroll although he is no longer required.

The man, A. Gottfried, has in the past worked at F & C during peak seasons, but was always laid off when production slowed down.

This year he asked, and the Works Committee recommended, that he be kept on longer because he had no alternative job. The Management agreed against a written undertaking that he be discharged in December.

A Labour Council order that he be retained in spite of the previous agreement because of his length of service was withdrawn at the appeal of the management. Gottfried is now trying to achieve his aim by striking.

CAUSE OF CHICAGO BLAZE UNDETERMINED

CHICAGO (Reuter). — The cause of the fire which killed 90 children and three nuns at a Chicago Catholic school last December remains undetermined, a Grand Jury reported on Wednesday. The jury said the fire started under the stairs and had been burning for some time before being reported.

Kibbutz Murder Baffles Police

Jerusalem Post Reporter

GIVAT BRENNER.— Police continued to run up against a blank wall as they sought on Thursday for the second successive day for some motive or clues in the Avigail Salomon murder case.

The 29-year old brunette mother of two was found on Wednesday morning strangled to death in a little shed some 500 metres from the kibbutz Children's House — the last place where she was seen alive. She had told her husband on Tuesday that she would take the evening meal with him after tucking their two boys into bed.

Shocked members of the settlement were told yesterday that the first pathological examination of the corpse had failed to yield any further clues. It has not even been established where the actual deed took place.

Aside from the strangulation marks on her neck, experts say, there is no evidence that the victim was assaulted in any other way. The shed where she was found is a three-by-three metre storm-weathered structure which has not been used for some time and which is outside the dwelling area of the kibbutz.

The funeral will take place today (Friday).

Wife Killer Gets Life Imprisonment

TEL AVIV. — The District Court on Thursday sentenced Aharon Brader to life imprisonment for the premeditated murder of his wife, Lisa, in September, 1957.

In reviewing the events that led to the crime, the Court stated that the couple had not been getting along and the wife asked the Rabbinate to grant her a separation. The accused at first promised his wife he would grant her a divorce, but later changed his mind. The Rabbinate ruled that the husband must pay his wife maintenance, but he did not do so. Because of her husband's threats, the wife went to live with a relative, Mrs. Sarah Yankelowitz, at 27 Rehov Frishman, but her husband continued to annoy her. His frequent appearances at her place of work led to her dismissal from her job. A witness at the trial testified that the accused said he would see his wife "dead at my feet before I give her maintenance."

On the day of the murder, the wife had gone to visit some friends on Rehov King George and then walked back to the flat on Rehov Frishman. The accused accosted her on the way and followed her to the house. Mrs. Yankelowitz, who was then at home, suddenly heard a scream and when she ran out to the hallway saw the wife stretched out on the ground and the accused stabbing her wildly. A fruit vendor nearby also heard screams and when he dashed into the hallway and saw a man stabbing a woman he hit the man solidly until he desisted.

The accused confessed fully at the police station, and although he later altered his account of the events, the Court ruled that his admission to police was the true one. *(Ilim)*

Steinberg Boy Buried In Pardess Hanna

Jerusalem Post Reporter

PARDESS HANNA. — The remains of Aharon Steinberg, the five-year-old child of a non-Jewish mother, were reinterred in the new Municipal cemetery here on Thursday in a civil ceremony conducted by the head of the Local Council, Mr. Benjamin Sharon. The boy's father recited the traditional prayers.

Refusal of the Orthodox burial societies to bury the child within the local cemetery had aroused a public outcry a year ago. The parents reside in Hadera.

A FESTIVE dinner honouring the contributions to Israel-America cultural relations of Mr. Leonard Bernstein, Musical Director of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, will be given at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, on February 2, it is learned in Tel Aviv.

Martha and Benjamin Ben Assa

are happy to announce the birth of their daughter

YAEL

Beersheba — 285 Shikun Amidar
January 4, 1959.

To the Turnowsky and Toren families

our deepfelt sympathy and condolences on the passing away of their husband and father,

WALTER TURNOWSKY

"MAOF" LTD.
Publishers' Representatives

Author Hands 8-6 His Biography

TEL AVIV. — The Prime Minister and Mrs. Paula Ben-Gurion on Thursday received at their home here the author and journalist, Mr. Robert St. John, who presented them with the first copy of his book "Ben-Gurion — the Biography of an Extraordinary Man." The book is dedicated to Mrs. Ben-Gurion.

Mr. St. John told a press conference here later in the day that he felt that "giving Mr. Ben-Gurion a book is like giving a woman a diamond." The author also presented the Prime Minister with a number of books on Chinese and Greek subjects.

The biography will be available in Israel book shops in about two weeks. Mr. St. John is leaving Israel on Sunday for the U.S., where he will go on a speaking tour for the United Jewish Appeal.

Egg Producers Want Subsidy

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The price paid to poultry growers for every egg today is on the average 10 pruta lower than what it costs to produce the egg, Mr. A. Gersten, secretary of the Histadrut Poultry Growers Association, told *The Jerusalem Post* on Thursday.

While it costs the farmer about 85 pruta to produce one egg, the average price paid through the egg marketing scheme is 75 pruta, he said.

Mr. Gersten attributed the high cost mainly to the high duties on feed. For example, the 100 per cent duty on protein feeds brings the price up from IL300 to IL600 per ton. Grain bought for $48 costs the farmers about IL180 per ton, he claimed.

The growers are asking the Histadrut Agricultural Council and the Ministry of Agriculture to support their demand that the Government bear the cost of the deficit incurred in producing eggs for export. They propose that a subsidy should replace the 10 pruta per egg now deducted from the payment made to the farmers, and paid into the export pool fund of the Egg Marketing Board.

BANANA EXPORTS TO CYPRUS EASED

The Chief Entomologist of the Cyprus Plant Protection Department has announced that he will recommend the extension of the import season for Israel bananas. The Cyprus official, Mr. Shiakides, visited Israel several weeks ago.

The import of bananas from Israel is generally limited to a short two-month season in January and February because the Israel fruit was infected with scale. During January and February Israel bananas are not infested.

Mr. Shiakides has announced that he would recommend extending the season from the beginning of December until March on condition that the fruit be fumigated and inspected by the Israel Plant Protection Department.

14 Injured In Three Accidents

Jerusalem Post Staff

Eleven soldiers were hurt, one seriously, and three civilians were injured in three accidents on Wednesday and Thursday.

The accident involving the soldiers occurred when an Army truck overturned on Wednesday afternoon 19 kms. north of Beersheba. The driver of the army vehicle was trying to avoid a towed civilian truck which was insecurely attached and had started to swing dangerously from side to side, when his vehicle toppled over. The injured were taken to a military hospital.

On Thursday, David David, 27, and Nissim Mesilati, 24, both of Akir village near Ramla, were injured when an Egged bus struck the side of a culvert. The bus was badly damaged and the driver was detained, but later released on bond.

Shalom Cohen, 60, of Nes Ziona, was seriously hurt when he was hit by a tender while crossing a road. He was taken to the Assaf Harofe Hospital. Police believe the accident was caused by careless driving.

HURT BY CYCLIST

Jerusalem Post Reporter

ASHKELON. — A 69-year-old man, Benno Klein, was seriously injured on Thursday when a 16-year-old cyclist on a pushbike slipped and crashed into him. Mr. Klein was taken to Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot where he was operated upon for head injuries.

Israel First Signatory Of Arbitral Accord

UNITED NATIONS (Reuter). — Israel on Wednesday became the first country to ratify the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, the U.N. Office of Legal Affairs announced here.

The 16-article Convention was adopted by a U.N. conference on June 10, 1958, and will come into force after three countries have ratified or acceded to it.

It is designed to ensure that a private agreement to arbitrate will be fully respected by the courts of all countries that become parties to it. The convention also provides that the party adjudged to have won an arbitral proceeding will not be prevented by legal devices from obtaining the award.

Employed Pharmacists To Strike Monday

Pharmacists employed in medical institutions are to strike on Monday to back up demands for higher wages.

This was decided on Wednesday by the National Committee of the Pharmacists' Association and pharmacists' committees in Kupat Holim, the Ministry of Health and other public institutions.

Some pharmacists will remain on duty at the hospitals and in border villages and the Defence Forces will continue to get their supplies.

ARKIA will receive two Alouette II helicopters by the end of February and hopes to operate them commercially during March, Mr. Ya'acov Hozman, the Arkia General Manager, said in Tel Aviv on Thursday.

U.N. REPORT SAYS:

Israel Labour Produces Half That in Other Industrial Nations

UNITED NATIONS (INA). — Israel's labour productivity is about half of that in many industrial nations. At the same time Israel in proportion out-produces both Turkey and Egypt and pays workers higher wages, and is growing faster in manufacturing than these two countries, according to a report issued here on Thursday by the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Israel productivity is "probably in the vicinity of 25 per cent of productivity in the U.S.," the report said, while the technical competence of the "entrepreneurial class (in Israel) seems to be on a much lower level than their commercial skills."

The report pointed out that due to Israel's rapid rise in population — both through a relatively high birth rate and immigration — the country "is now faced with an urgent and difficult development problem."

The report, entitled "Development of Manufacturing Industry in Egypt, Israel and Turkey," is part of the U.N.'s world economic survey.

It pointed out that wages in Israel are not only higher than in Egypt or Turkey, but also higher than "in several more industrialized countries." Comparable statistics in the report show that in manufacturing, the average hourly earning of an Israel worker is 48 cents, while it is 20 cents in Turkey and 11 cents in Egypt.

Israel's hourly wage rate is shown to exceed Western Germany where it is 40 cents, and that in France where it is 32 cents.

But while Israel labour costs are comparable with those in West European countries, production per worker in Israel is "much lower."

While Israel industry "can be said to be better equipped generally than in Egypt and Turkey," the report holds that in Israel "much obsolete equipment exists in some branches, notably weaving, printing and foundries, and the small size of plants in these and other branches is an obstacle to the use of the technically most efficient machinery."

The report states further that the "egalitarian wage system, which minimises the differential in wages between skilled and unskilled, has discouraged the acquisition of skills. There is thus at present a shortage of trained personnel in Israel."

EXPLOSION. — A thunderous explosion which wrecked several buildings in Istanbul's press centre on Tuesday was caused by more than 500 lbs. of dynamite stored at a mining company office, an investigation showed. The official death toll was given as 28.

BETH HAROVE
Sat., Jan. 10, 1959,
8.30 p.m. sharp
Frank Pelleg (Piano),
David Lelin (Violin),
Gideon Eshr (Viola),
Thelma Yellin (Violoncello).
PROGRAMME
Mozart (Piano Quartet in E-flat, K.493); Milhaud (String Trio); Brahms (Piano Quartet in A, op. 26).

Struck by a freight train as it stuck in the mud at Beit Safafa, south of Jerusalem, this Magen David Adom ambulance was badly damaged at 3 a.m. Wednesday. There were no casualties. Photo by Hirshbein

TRAIN HITS AMBULANCE

Jerusalem Post Reporter

A Magen David Adom ambulance from Jerusalem was badly damaged when it was struck by a train at Beit Safafa, south of the capital, at 3 a.m. Wednesday.

The ambulance had gone to Beit Safafa to transport an expectant mother to the Bikur Holim Hospital. The woman, Mrs. Suad Yussef Ibrahim, 30, was removed from the ambulance before the accident and was rushed to the hospital by the police. Two hours later she gave birth to a bouncing boy of 4.1 kilograms.

The ambulance stuck in the mud near the train tracks in Beit Safafa when it tried to turn around to return to Jerusalem. The driver summoned the police, but the light police van was unable to extricate the ambulance.

Before the police wrecker truck could be brought to the village, the lights of the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem freight train appeared in the distance.

A policeman ran along the tracks to flag down the approaching train. But the track curves frequently and sharply at this point, and the train engineer did not see the policeman in time to stop the train.

The ambulance, which was badly damaged, was hauled away by a police wrecker.

By 5 a.m. the track was cleared and the train proceeded on its way.

Ein Harod to Have Two Post Offices

Separate postal agencies are to be opened on Sunday in each of the sections of Ein Harod, the kibbutz which split in 1954, the Postal authorities have announced. Hitherto, a single agency served settlers both of Ihud Hakvutzot ve-Hakibbutzim and Hakibbutz Hameuhad.

Italian Boat Seeks Shelter in Kishon

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — An Italian fishing smack, the Nasso, was towed into the Kishon Harbour on Wednesday when she found herself in danger of running aground in a storm.

The 20-ton craft, with seven fishermen aboard, was on her way from Beirut southwards when the heavy sea drove her towards the shore. The boat was unable to make any headway against the surf driving it into the beach, despite its 200 h.p. engine, and the crew flashed a distress call to the Coastal Police Patrol.

Vessel and crew will be granted shelter until the sea subsides.

Seminar for Young Arabs and Druse

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — Eighty Arab and Druse intellectuals, including 20 girls, are attending a two-day course on current Israel problems sponsored by the Civic Education and Information Services, the Arab Section of the Ministry of Education and the office of the Adviser on Arab Affairs in the Prime Minister's Office.

Present at the opening at the Megiddo Hotel here on Thursday afternoon were Mr. Mas'ad Kassis and Sheikh Jabir Muadi, both MK's, and Mr. Ezra Danin, of Hadera.

This is the fifth such seminar for Arab and Druse intellectuals.

Toledano Intervenes In Sabbath Dispute

The Minister of Religious Affairs, Rabbi Y. Toledano, was in touch with the Chairman of the Kiryat Motzkin Local Council and other public bodies in connection with the introduction there of public transport on the Sabbath, the Ministry announced on Thursday. The Ministry's Director-General, Dr. S. Z. Kahana, has gone to Kiryat Motzkin as the representative of the Minister to deal with the matter.

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Knowledge of German essential. Offers, stating age and previous employment to: No. 1539, "B" ADVERTISING, 30 Rehov Herzl, Haifa.

Naphta to Drill For Gas in Judea Region

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Drilling for gas has begun at Zohar 2 in the Judea region, a Naphta Company spokesman told *The Jerusalem Post* on Thursday. But it will be three months before commercial possibilities can be ascertained, he added.

Gas has been found at nearby Zohar 1 and drilling has reached a depth of 50 metres. It will take some time before it is known whether a large field of natural gas exists in this area.

The spokesman revealed that Naphta will start drilling in Hahutsa in a fortnight. He said that a geological survey of some sections of Upper Galilee is now being completed.

Pan-Israel will start drilling for gas in the Machtesh Hagadol next Tuesday, according to Mr. G. Harris, the company's chief geologist. The well will be named Kurnub 2. He said that Pan-Israel recently found water when searching for oil in this region.

Itim to Distribute French News Service

TEL AVIV. — ITIM, the local news agency, announced on Thursday that it has secured the rights to distribute the service of the French news agency, Agence France Press, under an agreement signed this week.

Distribution will start on Saturday evening in ITIM's teleprinter service in Hebrew. ITIM also distributes Reuter's news service.

The contract was signed by M. Favian Lacombe, representative of A.F.P. in Israel, and Mr. H. Baltsan, Manager of Itim. *(Itim)*

800 SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD MINERS RIOT

VIRGINIA, Orange Free State (Reuter). — Six hundred African mineworkers rioted in their quarters at the Virginia gold mine on Wednesday night, setting fire to buildings and smashing windows.

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our

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Warm Morning Gowns of first class VELVET ANGORA Duster Models 3/4 length in many modern pastel shades formerly IL42.

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Heavy Mapai Ballot Shows Keen Interest in Party Affairs

By MARK SEGAL, Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The most common reaction to the results of this week's heavy voting at the Mapai Party elections is that the voters apparently want to have more of a say in the election of their representatives.

The high percentage of voting — 130,000 out of an electorate of 180,000 — silenced fears that members were apathetic to party affairs, and was received even by veteran officials with surprised gratification.

The heavy vote on a personal basis is considered to give Mapai the moral right to press for a more direct electoral system, both for central and local governments. Mapai circles hope that this may be a lesson in democracy to other parties. They noted that in Herut's internal elections, many leaders fell by the wayside, but nevertheless their positions in that Party's central councils were not affected.

Differences which arose recently between such leading party personalities as Mr. Pinhas Lavon and Aluf Moshe Dayan can be considered as an indication of deepening interest in the party and not merely division among members. The 120,000 voters, Mapai circles said, represented an increase of 20 per cent in membership since the last elections two and a half years ago. Voting by the 30,000 new members is taken as a great advance in civic education for many who came to the polls for the first time in their lives.

VOTING IN BRANCHES

Voters chose the councils of 166 branches, as well as 1,600 branch and trade union delegates to the party's ninth national convention.

The importance of voting for branches lies in the fact that these have the right to choose half of the Nominations Committee for the Knesset members, and their party's candidates for local government. Heavy voting in this section of the poll, and the emergence of "new faces," showed that decentralization of the party's national machine has progressed considerably.

The large popular vote given to Cabinet Ministers and Knesset Members in the branches has greatly heartened all supporters of constituency elections. This emergence of the Party's national leaders at the top of the polls is regarded as having greater importance than for the party alone.

That Mr. Ben-Gurion received almost all the votes of the Beersheba Branch was to have been expected. Outstanding was the triumph of Mrs. Golda Meir in Central Tel Aviv where she received the highest single voting proportion of any candidate in the city's 29 branches. Similarly, Mr. Shimon Hillel, M.K. followed Mr. Ben-Gurion on the Beersheba list, although he is not a resident of the city.

Mayors and Councillors received popular support in their towns, as demonstrated by the case of Mr. Agron in Jerusalem, Mr. Khoushy in Haifa and Mr. Tager in Ashkelon. Such well-known leaders as Mr. Sharett, Mr. Lavon and Mr. Netzer did not take part in the elections as their membership in the party's 15-man Secretariat exempts them from doing so.

The many votes received by the young faction, especially Mr. Peres, Aluf Dayan and Aluf Remez, will probably strengthen their position at the Convention. The fact that Mr. Peres came second in the Clerks' Union, for example, will no doubt confound the group's opponents' claim that "they do not have popular support". This trend was noticeable outside Tel Aviv. In Beersheba, for example, Mr. G. Ben-Israel had the highest number of votes for the Council as well as closely following Mr. Ben-Gurion to the convention. He preceded Mayor Touviahu in both cases. Similar heavy voting averages for the "young rebels" were noticeable in places as far apart as Natanya, Tiberias and Ashkelon, where members of the group closely followed the veteran local leaders of the party.

ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Many adherents of the younger generation failed in the trades unions because of the electoral system in the unions. It caused the defeat of candidates with many votes in large unions and the election of others in small unions with few votes. Such was the case when a member of the young faction, Mr. A. Ofer, failed in the Tnuva Section of the Clerks Union, although he got over 1,000 votes, while a member of the Histadrut Executive, Mr. Y. Meshel, led the small Bedek workers list with 173 votes.

An analysis of the election results both to the Convention and especially to the Branch councils, shows that although all the present heads of local councils, labour councils and branches were re-elected, three new elements have emerged who may alter the party's structure in the future. They are:

- The Oriental immigrants;
- Young unknown and members of the liberal professions; and
- Residents of the new towns in the development areas.

J'lem Mapai Leaders Backed

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Veteran Mapai leaders in Jerusalem were returned in the party balloting in the Capital, as delegates to the Mapai National Convention.

Mr. Gershon Agron, Jerusalem Mayor, was elected in the Rehavia District; Mr. Zalman Shazar, Jewish Agency Chairman, the Kerem Avraham District; Mr. Dov Lipov, Mapai Secretary in Jerusalem, Makor Baruch District; Dr. Dov Joseph, Jewish Agency Treasurer, the Musrara District; Mr. Mordecai Ish-Shalom, Jerusalem Vice-Mayor, the Baka District; Mr. Moshe Baram, Jerusalem Labour Council Secretary, the Central City District; Mrs. Yehudit Ginsburg, of the Labour Council, in the Civil Servants Section; and Mr. Ra'anan Weitz, of the Jewish Agency, in the West Jerusalem District.

In the Women's Division, Mrs. Rahel Shazar, Mrs. Zipora Sharett, Mrs. Rahel Zabari, M.K.; and Mrs. Haya Buton, were elected.

About 70 per cent of the 9,000 electorate voted in the elections for the national convention; and about 80 per cent in the elections for the Trades Union.

EILAT RESULTS

At the southernmost polling branch in Eilat, Mr. Hanoch Nenner, Chairman of the Local Council, and Mr. Zvi Ben-Efrayim, Council Treasurer, came in first in the Mapai elections.

THE NATANYA Town Council decided on Wednesday to name the continuation of Rehov Jabotinsky after the late Professor Yosef Klausner.

On Jan. 15

A drawing of Mifal Hapayis will take place with a new method being used. 94,729 people won prizes in the last drawing. You too can win if you buy a ticket. Don't say tomorrow — tomorrow may be too late.

NO DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN THE COALITION AND THE OPPOSITION ON THIS:

They all agree that they must participate in the drawing of Mif'al Hapayis. The chances of winning are great: Owners of a full ticket participate in the regular drawing, the additional AND the housing drawing. Further — compensation prizes, amounting to IL200 and IL250. Winners are exempted from payment of Income Tax. The next drawing will take place on Thursday, January 15.

FISHING CLIPPERS

Candidates to join fishing clippers which will operate in the Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean and the Red Sea are requested to write, giving personal details and experience to Israel-Nippon, P.O. Box 1891, Haifa.

Association of Americans & Canadians in Israel
JERUSALEM BRANCH

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Jerusalem Branch will take place on Monday, January 12, at 8.30 p.m. at Beit Hillel.

On the Agenda:

1) Report by the President of the Branch, Dr. Morton M. Berman.
2) Committee reports, including latest details on the Jerusalem Housing Project.
3) Election of officers and Executive Board.
4) Address by the National President, Carl Alpert, on "Why Some Leave."

Cables in Brief

JAIL-BIRDS. — Robert C. Booker, 42, and James Walden, 28, enjoyed only 12 hours freedom after their release from the State Penitentiary in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Booker was arrested for forcible entry and Walden was back in jail for picking Booker's pockets.

FORD. — The Ford motor works in Cologne last year produced 126,822 vehicles, the West German Economic News Agency has reported. This was more than in any year since the war.

Compromise Mooted In Even Vesid Case

Jerusalem District Court Judge B. Shereshevsky on Thursday postponed for a week the hearing on a request to annul a temporary injunction preventing the appointment of a new management for the Even Vesid subsidiary of Solel Boneh to allow time for out-of-court negotiations. The injunction had been granted at the request of the former manager, Mr. B. Kav-Venaki.

Mr. Kav-Venaki had claimed that the recent reorganization of Solel Boneh, which he had opposed and whereby Even Vesid came under the jurisdiction of the building section of the firm, was carried out in complete disregard for his rights as a stockholder in the concern.

Solel Boneh had applied for annulment of the injunction, pointing out that Mr. Kav-Venaki's claim was baseless, inasmuch as he had never had private proprietary rights in shares of the company he managed, which belonged solely to Solel Boneh.

Judge Shereshevsky called representatives of the two sides for consultations at his chambers in an attempt to reach a compromise settlement. *(Ilim)*

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Debre Drafted Fifth Republic Constitution

France's Premier-Designate is Fervent Gaullist

By MAURICE CARR

PARIS.—MICHEL Debré, the new French Prime Minister-designate, is as yet little more than a name to his own people and to the world at large. During the ten years he sat in the Senate, from 1948 up to the fall of the Fourth Republic, he remained so incorrupicuous that he was omitted from the hundreds of biographical dossiers to be found in the press archives of the Prime Minister's office now entrusted to his leadership. Only when he was appointed Minister of Justice in the Gaullist Government last June was a Debré folder started, and to this day it contains no more than a single clipping from the daily *"Le Monde"* giving a brief account of his career.

At the same time, though he stayed out of the limelight, he is anything but a mystery man. His life is an open book. As for his political views, they are not at all secret. Usually there is quite a gap between what a politician says and what he thinks; and when he attains power, diplomatic observers make it their business to find out by devious soundings what are the intimate workings of his mind. In Michel Debré's case this task is simplicity itself. He is not noted for oratory or loquacity; but he has published several works in which his personality, philosophy and attitude to current problems are revealed to the fullest possible extent. And those who read his writings for the first time will have the thrill of discovering one of the most trenchant, lucid and stylish ideologists of Western democracy.

MICHEL DEBRE

Jewish Antecedents

It may be that Michel Debré's Jewish antecedents count for something in his intellectual make-up. His grandfather, a Talmudist, was Chief Rabbi of Strasbourg. After the Franco-Prussian War, when Alsace-Lorraine was annexed by Germany, the family moved to Paris.

Michel Debré was brought up in the Christian faith by his father, Prof. Robert Debré, President of the French Academy of Medicine, who is the author of the far-reaching medical reforms that have just been adopted by the Government.

The Prime Minister is a youthful-looking 46, and could easily be mistaken for the brother of his four sons. Spare of frame, of medium height, swarthy, with huge blazing dark eyes and a large forehead, he somehow calls to mind the classical portraits of Spanish grandees. Behind the refinement, there is also the intensity reminiscent of a yeshiva student.

Before taking his doctorate in law at the Sorbonne, Michel Debré graduated as a cavalry officer from the famous Saumur military academy. Mobilized at the outbreak of World War Two, he was taken prisoner by the Germans, but escaped and made his way to Morocco where he joined the Resistance movement. In 1942 he returned to Nazi occupied France and set up the "shadow civil service" which was to run the country after the Liberation.

In 1944, he served as Commissioner of the Republic in the Angers region, then a year later joined the cabinet or staff of General de Gaulle with the job of elaborating administrative *reforms*. Transferred to the General Commissariat of German and Austrian affairs, he worked out the plans for the economic union between the Saarland and France.

A fervent Gaullist, Michel Debré from the outset denounced the Constitution of the Fourth Republic as unworkable, and he scorned the "delights and poisons" of high office in the late régime. He pestered the long procession of wobbly Governments with thousands of embarrassing questions from his seat in the Senate; but this Upper Chamber of Parliament was a side-show of which no one took any notice — few newspapermen even entered its portals — and he passed for a Quixotic tilter at windmills. The prophecies of woe which he uttered in his weekly paper "Courrier de la Colère" (Courier of Wrath), made no impression.

In 1957 his book "Ces Princes qui nous gouvernent" ("These Princes Who Govern Us") did attract attention. This did not, as its title might suggest, attack the personalities who were the pillars of the Fourth Republic. Instead, it gave a masterful exposure of the Constitutional ills afflicting France. His diagnosis was well received; his call for therapy was ignored.

Accurate Prediction

The predictions he made have proved so dead accurate, that in retrospect they have an almost frightening visionary quality. "A mouldy edifice like our present régime," he wrote, "is doomed to collapse in an instant. It will go with the suddenness of a cork popping from a bottle." The question was: would it vanish before irreparable harm had been done? Unless the democrats made haste to replace the old with a new more worthy structure, anti-democratic forces would fill the void. The only way to avert bloody revolution, he foresaw, would be to vest full powers in Gen. de Gaulle at the head of a transitional "Government of Public Safety" which would pave the way to the establishment of a stable Fifth Republic. He indicated precisely what form the new Constitution should take.

And when the bloodless revolution came — late but not too late — Michel Debré had the satisfaction of being assigned by Gen. de Gaulle to draft this very same Constitution.

Michel Debré, one of the leaders of the Gaullist U.N.R. party, has been described as a "right-winger, an ultra-nationalist, an adversary of European unity, a colonialist." The label is in every respect false. In the half-dozen books he has published — "La République et son Pouvoir" ("The Republic and Its Power") which appeared in 1960, is perhaps his *magnum opus* — he scientifically builds up his ideal political structure on a firm humanist foundation. The be-all and the end-all of governmental authority, he states, is to ensure human rights, "respect for the dignity of man, his body, his feelings, his thoughts." There can be no real liberty, he points out, unless there is material well-being — proper working conditions, decent housing and "full opportunity for every individual, despite unavoidable inequalities, to develop his personality and elevate himself."

Strong Government

Michel Debré's concept of democracy is, however, an aristocratic one inasmuch as he believes that human rights can be safeguarded only by a strong governmental authority which is not merely content to "coordinate the interests of the various component elements of society," but exerts power to "dominate the lowly passions and instincts of the people." "Men," he declares in one of the countless aphorisms which abound in his writings, "are animals moved much more by their passions than by their self-interest."

Michel Debré is an ardent French patriot, convinced as he is that if France is weak and humiliated, human rights will suffer in this country and elsewhere, too. He was bitterly opposed to German rearmament and was hostile to the European Common Market at a time when these departures were open to interpretations at American-inspired devices to bring about German hegemony in Europe. He recognizes the need for a United States of Europe — on condition that France will take her due place in the new combination. "As for Germany," he writes, "she can be accepted with the proviso that the crimes which so many Germans have committed against humanity are in no way forgotten." And he would rather than not see Britian join the future U.S. of Europe.

In regard to the French Community, Michel Debré was a longstanding advocate of the liberal federal system lately instituted in French Black Africa; and his ideas on Algeria are very close to those of Gen. de Gaulle. Unlike the President, the Prime Minister of France has never troubled to conceal his loathing for Nasser's pan-Arab imperialism, racialism, in a word, Fascism. By the same token, Michel Debré, no less than Charles de Gaulle, is a true friend of Israel. He was one of the early members of the Committee for a Franco-Israel Alliance which is presided over by Jacques Soustelle.

Succeeding de Gaulle

Although President de Gaulle will certainly remain the supreme "arbiter of the nation," it is no small responsibility to succeed him in the Premiership, and the other day the Gaullist daily "Combat" carried a cartoon showing Michel Debré stepping into a pair of outsize shoes, gigantic shoes which only a superman can fill. The spirit in which Debré meets this challenge may be gathered from the following words which he penned eight years ago:

"In the service of the Republic.' How grand is the charm of these words and of the ideas they express. No sooner are they pronounced, than the imagination surges forward; to penetrate into the inner life of the state, to come to grips with power, to learn its secrets, to follow the long-term designs which lead towards the future of the nations, to reach the keys of a commanding position. How many young men, at the age when they strive to fulfil in their future profession the aspirations of their best years, have felt and still feel the call to public service. In responding, they are ready for great sacrifices . . . dedicating themselves to the general interest and giving themselves ruthlessly to the State whose history is merged with that of the nation.

"Power means duty," added Michel Debré.

To his high and onerous office he brings an exalted and stern purposefulness. All who wish France well will follow with utmost sympathy his efforts to cope with and master the harsh realities of day-to-day political life.

ELI By Mok

"Eli says he only wants a one-way ticket — now that he has contributed to the Alija Loan, he will have no compunction about using the Jewish Agency to get back to Israel."

MASTERS OF CUBA

Bearded Ascetics Descend on 'Gay Havana'

By PHILIP DEANE

HAVANA (OPNB).—THE new master of Havana, Camilo Cienfuegos, tall, gaunt and only 28, sat listening gravely to the slick city men kneeling before him. They knelt to keep out of the way of the television cameras, but their posture was also symbolic, like sinners in an ecstasy of contrition before the ascetics from the mountains.

The analogy is not strained: Havana's greatest industry is gambling and prostitution. Into this moral swamp has descended a legion from the mountains, bearded and long-haired, sincere, disciplined and friendly, who speak of Cuba as of the Mother of God, and Havana, the harlot, is experiencing the sensation of pride with all the fervour of a neophyte.

Later on, I met Cienfuegos, Fidel Castro's principal lieutenant, who left his job to fight a dictator and ended up commanding the decisive battle for Santa Clara which broke Batista's will to fight. Fighting off sleep, and in between questions, he glanced at operations orders which orderlies brought him, and issued commands. He has restored the food services, taken over command of the whole province, placed his seasoned guerrillas at all key points and won over the main Army garrison at Camp Columbia — all this without paper work.

One of the astonishing things about the revolution is that it succeeded without any support from the Armed Forces and against their active opposition. And there are those who see in this feat much that is significant for Latin America. However, it is not quite correct to say that Castro won his revolution against the Army, because the Army at the end refused to fight him and it was this which was the immediate cause of Batista's downfall.

Batista's army was not a conscript army but a professional one. But the Cubans do not like joining military units unless they are very poor and need the pay. It was this type of man that Batista had in his forces. A racial element also enters into this picture because most of the troops belonged to the Negro minority, which is underprivileged and often despised.

Slum Dwellers in Uniform

Slum dwellers wearing a uniform simply for pay are not normally anxious to risk their lives in civil war, especially if the officers are unpopular and the nation as a whole sides with the rebellion. Batista's officers were the masters of Cuba. The colonel commanding a province was the source of all patronage and power. Junior officers were used as collectors of the bribes which the colonel extracted.

For example, a young lieutenant was recently sent to demand ten sacks of cement from an American company. The manager from whom I heard this story had already paid protection to the colonel and refused to provide the cement. The young lieutenant returned empty-handed and was punished by being sent to fight the rebels.

Such officers did not make good fighters. They barricaded themselves in their barracks and seldom took the risk of pursuing whenever the guerrillas struck. Moreover, Castro was careful not to make the soldiers feel he was their enemy; he seldom sought to exterminate them, being content with taking their weapons.

For these reasons, when the rebels launched their heavy attacks against the big towns of Cuba, it became evident that Batista's army, while prepared to break up a demonstration every now and then, had no intention of dying for him. Thus, whole garrisons began surrendering. It was then that a number of officers who were not on the rebels' blacklist started thinking of saving their necks and Batista lost even the loyalty of the officers' corps to which he had given the island as a spoil.

Las Vegas Capital

Batista had nothing to fall back on. He had pampered the unions in the cities and got along well with them but these unions were infiltrated by Castro's men and were certainly not prepared to step into the breach left by the Army. Besides, there was considerable resentment among union members at the amount of foreign domination over Cuba's economy. American companies own most of the sugar industry. Cuba's considerable iron deposits belong to U.S. firms that keep the mineral in the ground as reserves. Gambling and prostitution—the island's biggest earner after sugar and rum — has much Las Vegas capital invested in it.

In the country the peasants live in great poverty as compared with the apparent wealth of the towns. They are eager for education and this Batista neglected. Teachers were appointed for life and their professional ability was a secondary qualification —the proper connection was the main thing.

It was among the poor white peasantry that Castro found most of his soldiers. His leaders came from the middle-class mainly and are idealistic young men, genuinely concerned with the moral content of national life and disgusted by the endless graft. These are young men imbued with the ideas of Jose Marti, philosopher and leader of the Revolution against the Spaniards, a benevolent and enlightened man. The young middle-class felt their country had no destiny and no honour and had deviated from the national course set by Marti at the turn of this century.

Today things are almost normal. The bearded warriors have obviously had baths though the beards, which are badges of honour, remain untouched. Everyone appears to be happy except the gamblers and they have reason to worry. On the first day the crowd concentrated on wrecking the gambling casinos, leaving the adjoining hotels intact. Slot machines were dragged out into the streets and burned in bonfires. Also destroyed were houses of some profiteers.

Gamblers Disconsolate

Gamblers, with whom my hotel is plentifully endowed, sit disconsolately in their rooms and take one another's money at poker. "I paid a fortune for this concession, mister, to Batista. A fortune. I am unnerved by this confusion."

Speaking Through Dance

An Evening with Deborah Bertonoff

DEBORAH Bertonoff is a woman's eye view of history. It is devoid of the feminine touch except for Miss Bertonoff's good pair of legs. The dancer's limbs are more agile than her torso and her wise use of the floor, though it concealed her difficulties in holding a position, did not reveal her talents. The theme does not lend itself to Bertonoff. Proper artistic counselling would have been to her advantage.

Empathy with Audience

Despite everything, it was amazing to see the empathy between the artist and the audience. This control over the spectator saved her *pièce de résistance*, when an inopportune laugh would have made the performance ludicrous.

In her second offering Miss Bertonoff not only led the audience but she also channelled her talents: no readings, no 'great' intentions, no memories. Here as "the Comedian," she was in her element. The usual stereotypes were presented, but occasionally Bertonoff sparked them with an individual life.

Her greatest achievement was the lonely comedian. Her character is not the clown who is really sad, but the dreamer afraid of reality. After an imaginative flea act *à la* Chaplin, the clown, alone without his audience, is suddenly in a strange and cruel reality. His vivacious features have now become confused and he tries to hide. There Bertonoff stands on an empty stage, ostrich-like and dumb, only one leg is seen. Her entire body is covered by a black cloak but it is a breathtaking scene. Slowly the other leg slides down to the hard floor but, touching it, quickly shoots up again, then another attempt and another. Finally both legs are on the ground but somehow they are crossed. The figure, so agile just a minute before, stumbles through the darkness of its own reality, creating an unforgettable theatrical moment.

K.

Readers' Letters

TOURIST PASSAGES

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — I have recently returned from two delightful and inspiring months spent on my first visit to Israel, though my first impressions as an eager guest in our Land were made needlessly miserable and discouraging as a result of the current practices of Israel's one and only shipping line — the Shoham-Zim Company.

I feel that the following facts should be brought to the notice of all those who wish Israel's reputation at home and abroad to continue in its present glory.

Firstly, although I booked through a reliable travel agent for a passage at a cheap rate four months ahead of my sailing date, the company suggested that in order to secure a passage at all I buy the dearer ticket. This was in fact beyond my means (I am a student) but I did so, nevertheless, in my keenness to get to Israel. The company repeatedly assured me, until the very day of sailing, that there were simply no vacancies at the rate I had wanted. When I finally boarded the s.s. Theodor Herzl on July 30, I found that there were plenty of empty berths at the cheaper rate — in fact so many that they could in no wise be accounted for by last-minute cancellations. I consider this method of selling the higher-priced passages in preference to the cheaper ones highly distasteful.

Secondly, on arrival in Israel, I was refused access to my luggage on the grounds that a bill of IL30 was outstanding as a charge for overweight. When, utterly bewildered, I demanded that my baggage be checked, it was indeed found that it did not total even half the amount of the free allowance. My very first hours, or even days, in Israel were therefore spent haggling over IL30 that were mine.

I cannot help reflecting that if I am to leave all my hard-won savings in our country, I would rather be left the choice of the object of my donation and not have it forced out of me by the inefficiency of a shipping line that takes advantage of a tourist's inexperience, perspiration and eagerness to set foot on Israel soil.

I was, lastly, not exactly charmed by the courtesy and solicitious attentions of the members of the company's staff. I prefer to think that their frequent abruptness of manner is due to the heat and is not intentional.

Criticism such as this, coming from among our own people as it does, is intended in the most well-meaning and constructive of spirits.

Yours, etc.
"WELL-WISHER"
(Name and Address Supplied)
London, November.

The above letter was sent to the Shoham-Zim Company at the beginning of December and we were then informed that the matter was being investigated in London. On December 31 we received a further letter, signed by Mr. Shragai, the Press Officer of the Zim Company, saying that the matter had been investigated in London and in this country and "it is clear that the details given in this letter are incorrect and there is no ground for the complaint," without any further details being given.

INTERFAITH COMMITTEE

Editor, The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — As I read of the founding of the Interfaith Committee by what appear to be some noble-minded fellow Jews, a thought occurred to me: Would it not be wonderful if these selfless citizens could now manage to find the time and energy to found a similarly-dedicated committee for *intra*-faith activity among some of their fellows in Israel?

Yours, etc.,
DAVID SOLOMON
Jerusalem, December 31.

YESTERDAY'S PRESS

B-G's Denial of Putsch Aired

While Herut makes no editorial comment on the previous day's proceedings in the Knesset and contents itself with an eight-column streamer reading "Ben-Gurion's Lying Denial of the Mapai Putsch Affair," Ha'aretz (non-party) observes that the Prime Minister cannot be suspected of having a hand in the "plot" since he has grown up with a parliamentary regime and that the Israel electorate has granted him power without his having to resort to non-democratic methods.

The truth of the matter, however, continues the paper, is that the anti-parliamentary and anti-democratic winds in the State are blowing precisely from the direction of Mapai and not from that of the extreme right, as the Prime Minister tried to show. Short shrift should be made of such tendencies, for our national existence depends not only upon the security of our borders but also upon the stability of our parliamentary regime.

Haboker (General Zionist) writes that instead of issuing a short and clearcut denial, the Prime Minister chose to heap opprobrium on the opposition and attempt to becloud the issue by charging Herut with dictatorial ambitions.

Davar (Histadrut) writes that the consent of the three labour parties to the suspension of mutual defamation, both in speech and print, is commendable, and urges that the parties try not to look for sinister intentions behind every utterance on the part of other parties, for it is that which results in unrestrained mud-slingnig.

Lamerhav (Ahdut Ha'avoda) pleads that the greatest efforts be made not to restore the *ma'barot* because of the harmful effect it has on the newcomers and because it leads to discrimination.

Hatzofe (National Religious), in an aside, hopes for an end to the sadistic cruelty characterizing relations between the freshmen and the sophomores at the Kadoorie Agricultural School. "We no longer need school hardened Palmach commanders: the Army does the job quite efficiently." Such a "tradition" should be supplanted by education to kindness.

Australian Citizens in Israel

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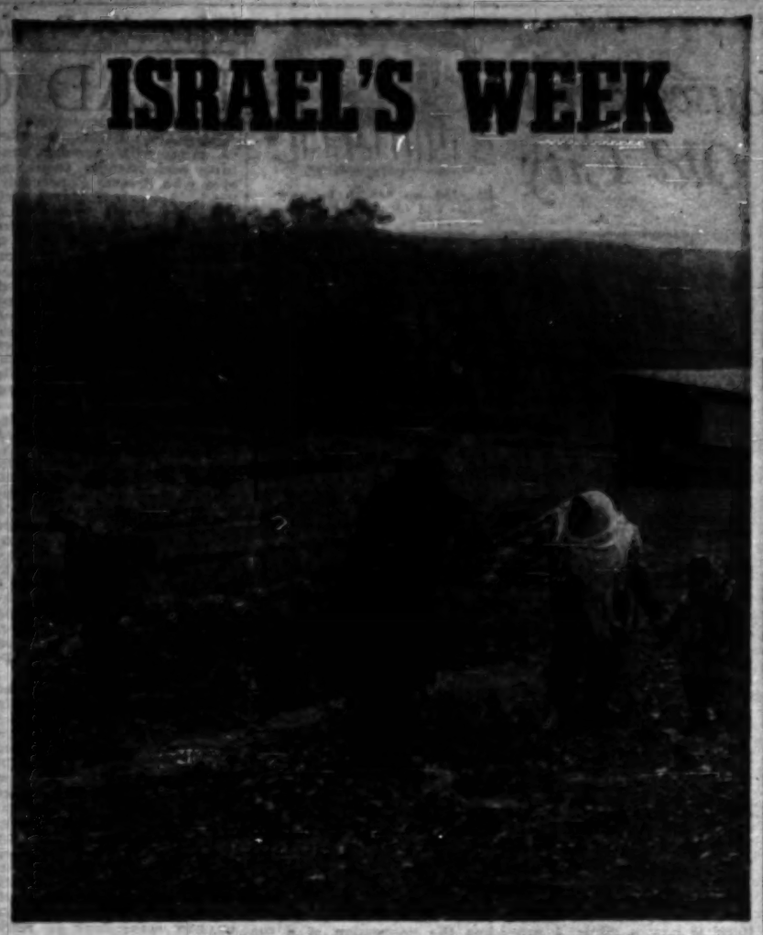
ISRAEL'S WEEK



A farmer and his family in the Jerusalem Corridor get delightfully wet in the first real rain to break the drought.
Photo by Braun

Rain, Rain, Come Again

AT least six weeks late, the rain finally came. It brought hope of an end to the drought which threatened to be the worst in memory, and many of the winter crops in the northern half of the country may yet be saved if the downpours continue for some time.

So far this winter had been the driest since rainfall records were started in this country 113 years ago. The damage done to the crops in the Negev was already, for the most part, irremediable, but there was hope that the Lachish region, on the borderline between the North and the South, might yet give a fair, though possibly below average wheat crop.

Citrus and vegetable growers could now stop irrigating, halting the further depletion of underground water reserves. The water level, alarmingly low, was expected to rise, and the artificial reservoirs to fill up, lessening the danger of a grave water shortage during the coming summer.

Experts warned that it would not be possible until next week to give a fair estimate of what might be saved and what was irrevocably lost. But Ministry of Agriculture sources indicated that damage already done amounted to scores of millions of pounds. This loss includes not only crops but also cattle, which will have to be slaughtered anyway, since it would take at least six weeks for the pastures to recover sufficiently.

Air fire brigades stood ready to evacuate low-lying apartments that might be flooded by rising wadis in some urban districts, traffic police inaugurated a new service: their loudspeaker vans cruised through the city streets, warning drivers to slow down on the wet roads.

Labour List

WHILE the ultimate goal remained a joint list of the three labour parties at the next elections, Mapai, Mapam and Ahdut Ha'avoda reached agreement on a more limited measure: a three-month trial period during which each would abstain from defaming the other two, particularly in print. At a meeting in Prime Minister Ben-Gurion's office it was agreed that party leaders would meet with the editors of the three labour papers and work out practical arrangements to prevent the publication of defamatory articles or statements.

When the three months are up, the leaders will meet again to discuss further steps in inter-party cooperation.

Mapam (from which Ahdut Ha'avoda split off) was a partner in Israel's first "wall-to-wall" Cabinet. Later, however, primarily because of ideological differences, the partnership was dissolved and Mapai teamed up with the Religious Parties and the Progressives, and later with the General Zionists, to rule the country. After the last elections more than three years ago, the labour parties again all took part in the Government coalition, which proved its stability several months ago, remaining in office despite the secession of the National Religious party.

In part, at least, the two left-wing socialist parties' willingness to join Mapai in the coalition was due to Moscow's increasingly pro-Arab and anti-Israel policy. In the early years of statehood Mapam plugged for closer ties with the Soviet bloc and for a "neutralist" foreign policy. Ahdut Ha'avoda, which emerged later, was closer to Mapai in these matters; however — rightly or wrongly — it has become an axiom of Israel's internal politics that Ahdut Ha'avoda cannot be in the coalition if Mapam is out.

The first feelers for a joint election ticket — and even a possible merger sometime in the future — were put out during the winter of 1957. However, the opportunity evaporated, even before formal talks were held when "Lamerhav," the Ahdut Ha'avoda paper, published some hints about a Cabinet decision which the party opposed to the detriment of national security. This created a major Cabinet crisis. Still, when the Ahdut Ha'avoda conference opened in March, 1958, many of the speakers called for the unity of the three labour parties.

There were some other incidents which strained relations between the three parties and made talk of a joint list unfeasible. One was the arrest of Mapam theoretician, Aharon Cohen, charged with passing information to agents of a foreign power. (Incidentally, it was again "Lamerhav" which turned this into an interparty dispute by publishing a charge that Mapam attempted to hush-up the story.) A few weeks ago another dispute broke out, this time when Mapam's Minister of Development, Mr. M. Bentov, published an exchange of letters showing that Mapai's Minister of Finance had torpedoed his planned commercial good-will mission to Asia. This dispute between the two Ministers extended also to the draft of the 1959/60 budget which, Mapam and Ahdut Ha'avoda felt, allocated too little for development.

The dispute over the budget allocations was one of the more fundamental issues which divide Mapai from Ahdut Ha'avoda and Mapam. Others include the wage freeze — supported by Mapai but opposed by the two left wing parties — and the electoral system. Mapai wants to introduce the constituency system which would ultimately limit the number of parties in the Knesset to three or four; Mapam and Ahdut Ha'avoda voted in the Knesset for the continuation of the present proportional representation system which gave seats in the Knesset to 11 parties. Still another issue is the system of mayoral elections: Mapai wants the mayors and chairmen of local councils to be elected directly by the voters, while the other two parties want to continue the present system under which the councillors, elected on party tickets, choose the mayor.

Mapai Vote

INSIDE Mapai itself there is no unanimity on the question of a joint election platform. Opponents of it are represented by former Chief of Staff Moshe Dayan, who stated that in view of the differences between the three parties on some most fundamental issues, the voters should be given a chance to cast their ballots according to their stand on these issues.

With the ninth Mapai Congress coming up soon, party members went to the ballot boxes to choose their delegates to the Convention. According to preliminary figures, about 120,000, i.e. about 75 per cent of the eligible members, cast their votes. This was a much higher proportion than in previous years, indicating a more active interest among party members and raising the Mapai leadership's hope for the results of the Knesset elections.

Mapai members can cast their votes either through the local branch of which they are members or through their trade union.

It seems that those identified with the "Young Club" scored a victory in local branches. Among those elected were: Aharon Remez, Moshe Dayan, Haim Rokah and others who had been sharply attacked by Histadrut Secretary-General Pinhas Lavon. For the first time, a number of the younger leaders were also candidates for election by trade union members. Here, however, the "oldtimers" routed them.

The results of the Mapai elections will have an important bearing not only on the composition of the forthcoming Mapai Convention but also on the Mapai ticket for the next Knesset elections. The last Mapai Convention decided that half of the party's Knesset candidates would be nominated by the local branches (where the younger men scored) and half by the Party's Central Committee.

RAIN FINALLY CAME and may yet save much of the winter crops.

IN MAPAI ELECTIONS for the coming party convention, "Young Generation" candidates chalked up victories in local branches but failed in the Trade Unions ... **AGREEMENT ON** reticence in press criticism was reached between Mapai, Mapam and Ahdut Ha'avoda.

AN IL.1,336.5M. BUDGET for the 1959/60 fiscal year was presented to the Knesset by Finance Minister Eshkol who reviewed the achievements of the past three years and outlined economic prospects for the coming year ... **A 16-INCH EILAT-HAIFA OIL PIPELINE** will be built with foreign investments ... **DELEGATIONS FROM CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM** arrived on good-will visits. **7,000 NEW IMMIGRANTS** are expected in January and some of them, as well as some of those coming later, will again have to be housed in tin and wooden flats ... **NEW** estimates for 1959 immigration total 80,000 ... **A NEW GROUP OF "RE-IMMIGRANTS,"** consisting of 28 Israelis who had emigrated to Brazil, returned to this country.

New Budget

INTRODUCING the IL.336.-5m. budget for 1959/60, Finance Minister Eshkol delivered what would probably be the present Government's last major economic policy address and reviewed the country's economic achievements in the past three years.

Compared to previous budget speeches, Mr. Eshkol spoke more than usual about what had been attained, and less than usual of what had not been accomplished. He stressed, however, the need to increase productivity, reduce consumption, increase investments, reduce imports and increase exports.

An analysis of the figures presented by Mr. Eshkol indicates, however, that no major increase in the rate of progress toward these goals is anticipated in 1959/60. Total output will increase by nine per cent, but consumption will also increase by the same proportion. The level of investments will remain stable too, while exports are expected to increase by 11 per cent (important progress, but still far below what is necessary according to Israel's first "National Budget," published by the State Bank on the day of Mr. Eshkol's speech). The rate of scheduled investment was also below the requirements of the National Budget.

Big Pipe

ONE of the facts disclosed by Mr. Eshkol in his speech was that the present eight-inch Eilat-Beersheba oil pipeline would be replaced by a 16-inch line this year.

Israel undertook construction of the eight-inch pipeline immediately after the Sinai Campaign, when the Egyptian blockade of the Gulf of Eilat was broken. The Cabinet approved the project on December 6, 1956, and on April 15, 1957 the first oil was already being pumped into the pipe in what was internationally recognised as a major construction achievement. Later, the pipeline was extended — in 16-inch width — from Beersheba to Ashdot on the Mediterranean, with a link to the Helets oil fields. In a third stage, the 16-inch steel tube was extended all the way to the Haifa refineries.

At the same time, negotiations started in Paris and other Western capitals on a project for the laying of a 32-inch line from Eilat to the Mediterranean, reducing considerably Western Europe's dependence on the Suez Canal. There were, however, considerable economic and political difficulties involved in mobilizing investors for such a scheme. As the Suez Canal was cleared and reopened again to traffic, the urgency of an alternative route diminished, although it was revived briefly during last summer's Middle East crisis, when it was feared that Abdul Nasser might close the waterway again to oil shipments to the West.

Haifa Capacity

The present eight-inch pipeline can carry a large part of the country's present crude oil needs. However, with the purchase of the British-owned Haifa refineries by Israel interests, it is intended to operate the installations at full capacity — about 4,000,000-5,000,000 — tons annually. (At present only one-third of the capacity is being utilised, enough for Israel's own needs.) The 16-inch line from Eilat will be able to transport about 4.5m. tons of oil, and the cost of its construction — together with the necessary pumping, storage and signal installations — was estimated at $36m., most of it to come from private investors abroad.

Economic circles in Israel also hoped that the completion and effective operation of the 16-inch line would prove to Western oil interests the feasibility of a 32-inch line, which could carry about 25,000,000 tons of oil annually.

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DEPARTURES: JANUARY 11 — JANUARY 18
FROM TEL AVIV-JAFFA (LYDDA) AIRPORT

Date	Time	Company	Destination
SUN. Jan. 11	0945	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Zurich, Frankfurt, New York
	0930	B.E.A.	Athens, Zurich, London
	0945	EL AL	Istanbul
	1200	ALITALIA	Rome
	1300	EL AL	Athens, Zurich, London, New York
	1800	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Paris
MON. Jan. 12	0700	SWISSAIR	Athens, Zurich
	0815	B.E.A.	Athens, Rome, London
	0830	EL AL	Rome, Munich, Brussels
TUES. Jan. 13	0930	EL AL	Johannesburg
	0945	AIR FRANCE	Teheran, Karachi, Bangkok, Saigon, Manila, Tokyo
	0815	OLYMPIC AIR	Nicosia, Athens, Rome, Paris, London
	0900	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Zurich, Paris, New York
	1030	ALITALIA	Rome
	1215	K.L.M.	Munich, Amsterdam
	1300	EL AL	Rome, Paris, London, New York
WED. Jan. 14	0900	B.E.A./CYP.	Nicosia, Athens, Zurich London
	0830	EL AL	Vienna, Cologne, Amsterdam
	1100	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Paris
	1130	EL AL	Zurich, Paris, London
THURS. Jan. 15	0715	AIR FRANCE	Teheran, Karachi, New Delhi, Bangkok, Saigon, Manila, Tokyo
	0900	SWISSAIR	Athens, Geneva, Zurich.
	0815	B.E.A.	Athens, Rome, London.
	0830	B.E.A./CYP.	Nicosia, Ankara, Istanbul, Rome, London
	0900	EL AL	Istanbul
	1015	T.W.A.	Athens, Rome, Geneva, Paris, New York
	1030	SABENA	Athens, Vienna, Brussels
	1215	K.L.M.	Rome, Amsterdam
	1300	EL AL	Rome, Paris, New York
	1800	AIR FRANCE	Rome, Paris.
FRI. Jan. 16	0930	B.E.A./CYP.	Nicosia, Athens, Zurich, London
	0830	EL AL	Rome, Munich
	0900	OLYMPIC AIR	Athens, Rome, Paris, London
	1300	EL AL	Athens, Paris, London, New York

DEPARTURES FROM HAIFA PORT

Day	Date	s/s	To
TUES.	13 Jan.	ENOTRIA	Larnaca, Piraeus, Bari, Venice, Trieste

PELTOURS
Tel Aviv: 29 Rehov Ahad Ha'am, Tel. 67891 (6 lines)
Jerusalem: 1 Rehov Shlomzion Hamalka, Tel. 6218/7
Haifa: 23 Derech Ha'atzmaut, Tel. 6341/2
Nahariya: Rehov Hagal, Tel.921280
Shamir Gan (Agent) 32 Rehov Sheikh, Tel. 71288
Lydda Airport Tel.971110
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The Middle East Scene — *By Amnon Dorfar*

Enigma of General Kassem

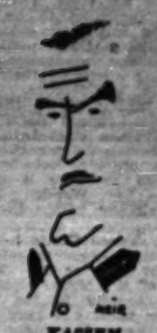
THE fate of Iraq, and probably of much else in the Middle East and North Africa, appears to lie in the hands of a highly elusive, enigmatic officer of rather obscure origins whose political as well as conspiratorial accomplishments cannot be denied. In nearly six months of uninterrupted rule, all that could be extracted from Brigadier (now Major-General) Abdul Karim Kassem by way of a clear, meaningful political statement has been that:

- the revolutionary regime considers the people the source of all authority: "The people must decide the future of our country," Kassem has said time and again;
- the people must pass through a "period of transition" to ruling their economic, social and cultural standards. They are not supposed to decide their future before the end of this transition period—which may prove to be very long;
- the Iraqi Republic is a partnership in which Arabs and Kurds are equal;
- in the Arab field, Iraq follows a policy of full cooperation and solidarity with the "liberated Arab countries" in all spheres, and seeks to promote the aims of Arab Nationalism and raise the Arabs' standing in the world; and,
- in the foreign field, the new Republic is peace-loving and sincerely seeks the friendship of all nations; its policy is based on "positive neutralism and non-alignment with either of the world camps."

Words v. Deeds

Yet everybody who has been to Baghdad lately seems convinced that Iraq under General Kassem is drifting toward Communism, some even accusing him of being a crypto-Communist himself and reminding us that his conduct under the watchful eyes of Nuri es-Said revealed him as a man of considerable powers of dissimulation. When Baghdad's relations with Cairo were warmer, an Egyptian weekly carried a report on Kassem's family in which it was revealed that Abdul Karim always came to Nuri's defence when one of his many brothers made a critical remark about him.

Communist or not, however, Kassem has of late been allowing much decisive power to be usurped by Communists — a development which can mean only that (barring his being one of them himself) he has come under their influence or become their willing tool. This did not become clear until the downfall of the Nasserist Colonel Abdul Salam Aref and the Ba'ath Party; but that does not necessarily mean that it was Kassem's fear of Cairo's intrigues which drove him to seek the Communists' support; it may, in fact, mean that getting rid of his talkative colleague was part of a plan.



KASSEM

Not a Government

What are the facts, then? Before going into details, it must be pointed out that in Iraq it is no longer possible to speak of politics in terms of the respective party affiliations of the men who compose the present Cabinet; for it is impossible to speak of a Government in the accepted sense of the word.

Apart from Kassem himself and those who hold purely technical portfolios (Finance, Development, Transport, Public Works, Social Affairs, and Foreign Affairs, where they are given a free hand, other Ministers are either stripped of any real authority or themselves suspected of Communist leanings. The result is that real power in Iraq today is wielded by Kassem and a kind of shadow cabinet, most of whose members act exactly like Communists.

For one thing, radio and television services are directed by a confirmed Communist by the name of Salim el-Fakhri. An army major who was sentenced to a short term in prison ten years ago and then retired from the service, he is described as Kassem's closest friend. He was admitted back into the Army shortly after the July coup and then "lent" to the civilian administration in his present capacity.

In addition to running the all-important radio and television stations, el-Fakhri controls foreign press censorship and is said to control much of the local press. His activities render Siddik Shanshal, the right-wing Minister of Guidance (Propaganda) utterly powerless. In fact, nothing has been heard of Shanshal since the Aref affair.

Moreover, the police, another extremely important factor, are also controlled by a Communist, Yahya Taher. His appointment as successor to a Ba'athist, on December 7, the day the plot against the regime was discovered in Baghdad, has robbed another anti-Communist Minister, Brigadier Mohammed Yahya of the Interior, of much of his real authority. The London "Times" Middle East correspondent recently expressed satisfaction at the fact that Yahya was "believed to have found Nuri es-Said's old secret police organization almost intact." But the question remains, which of the two Yahyas now controls the secret police.

Again, the Economics portfolio, which has acquired great significance of late with Iraq's endless series of trade and economic agreements with countries of the Eastern bloc, is held by Dr. Ibrahim Kubbah, who is described as a self-styled Communist whom the Party does not acknowledge. Two things are known about him: he has not known party affiliation, and he talks remarkably like a Communist. This week he represented Iraq at the Arab League's Economic Council meeting in Cairo, where his speech was full of (Arab) Communist jargon.

Slogan Making in Court

Strange as it sounds, much of the slogan-making, and perhaps policy-making, is being done in the so-called Special High Military Court set up in Baghdad to try men of the old regime. It is headed by Colonel Fadhal 'Abbas el-Mahdawi, Kassem's brother-in-law — a simple-minded but extremely sinister figure who likes to call his court the People's Court and holds his mock-trials in the evening so that everybody can either come to see or make the broadcast relay. Mahdawi seems too unsophisticated to be a Communist, but he is obviously under their spell.

Apart from these all-powerful figures, there are the officers Wasfi and Lutfi Taher, two brothers who seem to have a great influence on Kassem. Wasfi is Kassem's bodyguard (he was Nuri's own bodyguard until the very end, was assigned to kill him on the day of the coup but failed to) while Lufti is responsible for press censorship. Communists and pro-Communists also seem to have infiltrated into the civil service.

This is an impressive achievement. To control the police as well as the street, to control the press, the radio and television and decide foreign trade relations means winning a good part of the game. But this is not all. The Communists seem to enjoy the sympathy and support of religious and ethnic groups (mainly over a million Kurds and about 2,500,000 Shi'ites) who, in the absence of any alternative to being submerged into a sea of Sunnite Arabs in an expanded U.A.R., are siding with the Communists. Together, they make up more than half of Iraq's population.

The only important force which the Communists cannot be said with certainty to have infiltrated is the Iraqi Army, which appears to be still loyal to General Kassem.

The Putsch That Never Was

Parliamentary Report — *By Lea Ben Dor*

SOME of the most important things in Wednesday's ferocious Knesset debate were said as it were casually. One of them, at least, was not said at all.

Mr. Ben-Gurion was asked who were the people who had supposedly invited him to seize power, sometimes before the 1955 elections. He said it was nonsense; nobody had invited him to do anything of the sort. Nor had he made any statement to this effect at the Mapai Central Committee meeting, as had recently been reported in the press.

As he observed himself, even the members of the parties that supported Wednesday's motions did not believe there was any imminent danger of a *putsch*; they just wanted to frighten the Knesset and the public with this silly story. Silly, because even if Mr. Ben-Gurion agreed that he said there had been such a suggestion — and he denies it — that version of his speech said that he had declined even to talk about any such plan, and the *putschists* — if there were any — apparently retired quietly and nothing more was said about it all. Since then four years have passed. There has been a successful war against Egypt followed by a bitter withdrawal from Sinai that involved a brief crisis in public morale, a crisis that a half-baked terrorist group was quick to exploit with the murder of Dr. Kastner, in the hope of causing enough confusion to enable them to seize the reins of the government. Yet there was not a squeak out of the would-be *putschists* all this time.

Then why did Mr. Ben-Gurion, who at first refused even to take the trouble to deny the report of his remarks, which first appeared in "Ma'ariv," suddenly agree that these motions for the agenda should be treated as urgent? It was not just for the sake of an opportunity to take up again his fight against Herut as the party that failed to accept national discipline at the time of the emergence of the State in 1948, the party which twice promised and twice failed to let its armed men join the forces of the nation and caused a disastrous fight between Jews before enemy fire had yet been silenced.

★ ★ ★

THIS failure of the I.Z.L. to obey the general call-up to the newly formed army, their attempt to bring in arms for themselves and, finally, to entrench themselves in Jerusalem as their private stronghold, is a subject that is never very far from Mr. Ben-Gurion's thoughts, because the I.Z.L. leaders of those days are substantially the leaders of Herut today. He does not trouble to keep the contempt out of his voice when he speaks of them, and he does not hear when Mr. Ben-Eliezer calls him a "murderer." But he does not often bring the matter up in the Knesset. There is no mending the past. Indeed, Mr. Begin claimed on this occasion that the Prime Minister had often sent notes to Mr. Ben-Eliezer asking him not to bring up the past in the Knesset. Could he produce the notes? Mr. Ben-Eliezer shook his head. Mr. Begin fumed. Did the Prime Minister think his notes were so important that they would trouble to keep them? Of course it is just what one would have thought. Notes from prime ministers to leaders of the Opposition are in the nature of political cheques that can one day be presented for payment. At the very least they would be valuable data for the history of the parties. It is even betting that if the Prime Minister were to send any notes in future they would be carefully preserved.

★ ★ ★

ALL of this Mr. Ben-Gurion can and does bring up when the occasion arises, and if he wished to do so he stood in no need of an argument about a chimerical *putsch*. Then why did he speak for close on an hour, instead of getting up to deliver one of the laconic negatives that so annoy his opponents?

It seems that the clue is to be found in the warm words he had for Mr. Ben-Eliezer in his unbegrudging reference to the fact that the Israel army is, happily, a totally non-political body. If one had to decide what things Mr. Ben-Gurion cherishes most, then the reputation of Tzahal would come very high in the list, perhaps because of his deep reluctance that any of Israel's young lives should ever have to be sacrificed on a battlefield. Today, Mr. Ben-Gurion sees the Army not only as a shield against the continued designs of the neighbouring countries, but as the chief unifying force in the medley of warring parties and immigrants from scores of countries, primitive and sophisticated, light-skinned and dark-skinned, religious and free-thinking. Anything that hurts the Army, hurts Israel.

He went out of his way to praise the loyalty of the Tzahal cadres to the State as such. He also went out of his way to praise the brilliance of two past chiefs of staff, and to say that he wished categorically to refute "the ugly rumours that had been circulating to the effect that these two had been among those who had made the *putsch* suggestion (which had not been made)." But for these rumours, which were both fed and denied by the nebulous and contradictory day-by-day reports in "Ma'ariv," he might well have let the matter rest. It is difficult to envisage what would have happened in Israel had partisan military groups been permitted to continue their separate existence, or to grasp the strength of mind it took to break up the I.Z.L. by force, and the famed and loved Palmach by decree. But if it had not been done most likely we would not be here now in relative peace and quiet to ponder the question.

★ ★ ★

IT was an unpleasant session. Mr. Begin has been in the doldrums since the Sinai campaign took the wind out of his sails, and he is no doubt still smarting from his failure to gain any recognition as a political force in France despite his long-standing friendship with M. Soustelle. He is under pressure to rebuild his political prestige and was like a man robbed of his birthright in this debate concerning other people who allegedly sought power by force. He threatened that we shall have to listen to the whole of Wednesday's debate over again next week, when he is to demand a vote of non-confidence in the government. There can be no possible profit to the nation in this argument over the Altalena fighting that happened in 1948, or the *putsch* that did not happen in 1955.

Whatever happened at the Mapai Central Committee meeting, whatever was said, and whatever was in the minds of the speakers at the time, it was two months ago, and took place in the presence of Mapai members only. If there is any truth in the rumour that the story was improved upon and coloured and taken to "Ma'ariv" for week-long presentation as a "sensation" by aides of a Mapai group engaged in keeping out of power the men who have come to be known as the "Young Club," and discrediting them just before the Mapai internal elections, then somebody did a remarkably bad day's work.

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THE FIRST HURRAH

Migdal and Ashkelon Vote by Ethnic Groups

By PHILIP GILLON

A WEEK before the Migdal elections, politicos addressed the Afridar branch in Ashkelon and demanded that the voters waive their right to an independent election and agree to a single list for Migdal and Afridar, the two areas constituting greater Ashkelon. "Do you want to perpetuate a principle of apartheid?" one demagogue cried furiously to his predominantly Ashkenazi audience.

Believers in accelerated "Hirug Gahgid" had taken the elementary democratic precaution of gathering a formidable caucus and the proposition to merge lists with Migdal was carried by a large majority. Thus, apparently, was an old wrong righted.

Ashkelon consists of two areas distinct geographically (at one time two towns) — Migdal and Afridar. In the old days, before the two were merged, the Mayor of Migdal (himself a resident of Afridar) used to clamour in Migdal for "a march on the aristocrats to destroy their villas." In fact the "villas" consist for the most part of modest two-roomed cottages very similar in size to those found in Migdal's official housing projects, but intelligent town planning, a view of the sea and the gracious shopping centre certainly make life far more pleasant in the Afridar area. Almost all the town's managerial group (and the recognised politicians) live in Afridar. Standards of living and debts to bankers and merchants are comparatively high among the "aristocracy;" squalor and the real money are in Migdal.

Fortified by a noble decision to merge the ingathered, the voters of Afridar scanned a list of 237 candidates for 71 positions on the local Mapai council.

Lists for 'Self-Defence'

Three days before the elections, the Ashkenazis learned (as South Africa may) that it takes two sides to abolish "apartheid." The North Africans living in the town's stagnant ma'barot and Migdal's housing projects, had discovered a formidable and able leader who was organizing them into a solid bloc of 400 voters all pledged to support the same candidates. Furthermore, rumour said with many well-authenticated voices, the list thus drawn up contained only Sephardim.

In self-defence the Iraqis, Persians and Yemenites concluded a solemn agreement (signed in everything but blood) that they would support a combined list drawn up by their leaders. Between them they could muster 800 votes. They, too, were rumoured to be supporting only their own.

Realizing their peril, the Rumanians (predominantly in Migdal) organized their own list in self-defence. Word flew tardily across the hill to "cloud-capped Ilium" and the Trojans started to plan a last-ditch defence of a position already lost by the decision to have a united list — the Wooden Horse was already within the city walls.

Tense Contest

Election day brought a contest so tense that 90 per cent of the Mapai electorate came eagerly to the polls, among them one grey-beard in pyjamas. The party rules provided that anybody who had paid three months' dues during the preceding year was eligible and could vote for 71 numbers (which stood for candidates' names to eliminate reading difficulties). The North African leader staged a sensational coup by producing 200 members who had not paid for four years but whose dormant consciences had leapt to such vigorous life that they had raised the cash somehow to bring their subscriptions up to date. To simplify voting, leaders of the different ethnic groups provided voters with typed lists of the numbers they were to vote for. Supported by admiring lieutenants, they swaggered around the polling booths, while representatives of each group sat together at the tables where voting slips were issued to scrutinise each other's activities and to ensure that everything was legal.

Feeling ran very high indeed when the "partners" in the Iraqi-Yemenite-Persian deal discovered that their presumed slatemates were not playing square and had issued amended lists to their own followers excluding some of the agreed names.

The "intelligentsia" of Afridar were naturally indignant that the election had turned into a play of power politics by ward bosses controlling ethnic groups instead of a gentlemanly fight over such "real issues" as Young Grenadiers versus Lavon's Old Guard. Applying Mark Twain's dictum about truth, one cynic even suggested that democracy is so precious a thing that Israel should be more sparing in the use of it.

Yet it is hard to imagine any issue as burning to the voters as jobs and housing. Whoever controls Mapai in the development towns will control the Municipality, the Labour Council and the other organs of power. It is hard to conceive of anything more democratic than the voters organizing to protect their interests through their own selected and trusted leaders. They expect their "ward bosses" to look after them.

The parallel between the Irish usurpation of power in American towns and the dramatic "steal" by Ashkelon's ethnic groups is too obvious to be missed. Several-generation Americans in Boston, Pittsburgh and New York had also objected to the immigrants using their votes to appoint the people of their choice rather than to decide abstract principles. Presumably the inhabitants of the ma'barot have become aware that one of the few assets they possess is that piece of paper which they slip into the ballot-box — alas, too seldom!

Yet when the smoke cleared from the Ashkelon battle-field most of the dominant positions in the polls were held by Ashkenazis, by the grace of God and the Sephardic leaders. One of the voting committees was a leader of the Iraqi-Persian bloc who lives in Afridar; the voters apparently considered that he had tried to "pass," to use the American idiom. The true power has gone to new politicians living among the "masses." Whomever they appoint as the official occupants of high office, these equivalents of the American ward bosses will dominate the political and municipal life of the town.

Assertion of Democracy

Yet it would be absurd to suggest that this is in any way an undemocratic process — on the contrary, it is the assertion of democracy by people determined to have life, liberty, jobs, houses and the right to pursue happiness in as much comfort as their fellow-citizens across the hill. Of course, our cynical friend says that all that will result is that new houses in Afridar, together with appropriate sinecures, will have to be found for the new leaders of the masses — but of course cynics will say anything.

One thing is clear, and the politicians throughout the country, inside and outside Mapai, will do well to heed it. Fine talk of integration and absorption will not satisfy the voters from the Oriental countries; furthermore assumptions that Israelis will not vote in blocs according to ethnic origins are not valid for all citizens in the country. Perhaps this is what the anthropologists mean when they talk about a plural cultural society.

Jerusalem Revisited

Jewish Houses Still Stand in Old City

Boarded up Jewish building in the Old City of Jerusalem.

By a Special Correspondent

DISCUSSING the mosque at Hebron, an Armenian remarked: "It was once a synagogue, then a Christian church, and now a mosque — who knows what it will be ten years from now?" thus rather abruptly summing up the history of the Middle East.

With all these masters of the Holy Land having changed about so often, it is perhaps surprising that there has not been more destruction than there has. But then it must be remembered that many of the Holy Places of the Jews are also sacred to the Moslems.

The approach to the Jewish quarter was a little complicated owing to the kindness or ignorance of the people I asked. Approaching from the Armenian Quarter I was told: "You cannot go there now. It is evening and you will get lost." Others said: "Refugees are living in the destroyed buildings. They are not very friendly to strangers. Sometimes they throw stones." Somebody else pointed out that there were so many odd holes and piles of debris that it could even be dangerous to wander there — "Besides some of the refugees live underground and are apt to pop out under one's feet — most disturbing." I made several encircling movements, from the Wailing Wall, round by the Dung Gate and then along the Street of the Chains, and was continually being told the way back to the Christian Quarter. Finally a small boy who saw me wandering came up and said firmly, "Where do you want to go? This is nowhere."

Condition of Wall

With this encouragement I decided to explore. The Wailing Wall was the logical starting point. The Wall is in excellent condition and the whole place is kept neat and tidy in sharp contrast to the dusty debris outside the enclosure. I walked down the hill towards the Dung Gate and up past the Porat Yosef Quarter. The large white houses facing the walls are still here but of course the Synagogue itself was destroyed as was the old Hurva synagogue, as well. Further up the hill there was an inscribed arch, the entrance, I believe, to what was the Sephardic Talmud Tora which led into a large enclosure lined with small houses, some of them below ground level, old dwellings in good shape. Refugees live in all of these, and the school itself is now a clinic. I proceeded across this Maidan, crowded with playing children, as the whole inner section of the quarter seems to be, and towards Nissim Bak, which is partially destroyed. This whole section is a maze of crumbling houses and small lanes hedged with walls of rubble. You walk over rooftops, thinking they are mounds, and sometimes into the front parlour of a house when the owners are making do without a front door or even wall. To add to my confusion the children started to pelt me with stones from the jagged walls and rooftops and I was glad to make as dignified an exit as possible into the Street of the Jews.

Recent picture of the Wailing Wall.

Jewish Shops

This street, and all those which ringed the Quarter, has quite another atmosphere. It is a busy shopping quarter. The streets are lined with Jewish-style houses and shops, the difference being mainly noticeable in the iron-work and window-formation. Just off the Street of the Chains stands a small synagogue with all doors and windows boarded up which is, I believe, the Wurzaw Synagogue. Looking across the whole Quarter from the Temple area, one has the impression of a sea of small grey bubbles, the round-type domes peculiar to this part of the City rising to a focal point: the red-roofed House of Rothschild. This is now the highest part of the Quarter.

Repairs to 'Rock'

The Dome of the Rock is undergoing repairs. It was very dark inside, coming in from the bright sunlight, and my eyes were held by the Rock itself, which was decorated with a row of workmen's jackets. A shout from one of the workmen stopped me from walking into a huge hole which had been cut away under the pillars supporting the roof. The dome itself is being repaired from the inside, the outer covering to be dealt with later.

The road to Jericho has been widened just below the Temple, cutting into the Moslem and Jewish cemeteries on both sides of the road. Absalom's Tomb is intact, but the Mt. of Olives cemetery itself is in very scattered condition. From a distance it simply retains the air of a very old and neglected cemetery.

Repair work at the Dome of the Rock.

Personality Profile: Ya'acov Efter

HEAD OF HAMASHBIR

YA'ACOV Efter, a slim man with regular features and friendly twinkling eyes who dresses impeccably, heads Hamashbir Hamerkazi, the Histadrut's purchasing and marketing enterprise whose turnover last year is estimated at close to IL250m.

"I have always been practical-minded," he recalls, "but there was not one merchant in our family in Kishinev, where I was born in 1906. All the men were either ritual slaughterers or rabbis. My father was a cantor, a pious Hasid and a learned man."

Kishinev, the seat of a famous yeshiva, which taught Russian, geography and mathematics along with religious subjects, has given Israel a considerable number of Zionist leaders of the old guard, including the speaker of the Knesset, Yosef Sprinzak. The Efters were poor, there were several sisters to care for and Ya'acov went to work at 14, as a bookkeeper's assistant. He did go on with his studies later, but never in an organized manner and always after hours.

Early a member of the Tseirei Zion, Efter was in touch with members of the Hapoel Hatzair movement in this country. A cable from Nahum Tverosky brought him here in 1912, and upon arrival he was told to take over the party weekly, "Hapoel Hatzair." It was an unusual assignment for a boy of 18 who knew nothing either about managing a paper or about the country and its settlements. Efter protested and insisted that he had come here to work as an agricultural labourer, but party decisions were binding and he had to comply. The weekly's financial position was precarious, and keeping it alive meant going from settlement to settlement collecting small debts, finding new subscribers and negotiating with the printing shop for credit so that the next issue could appear.

Party Work

Finding money for the paper was only one of Efter's duties. Soon he found himself doing party work among agricultural workers, and thinking up ways of doing something about the malaria that was rampant among them. Burstein, the Jaffa dairy owner who was the father of the Director-General of the Ministry of Education, was prevailed upon to supply milk to the sick. Dr. Sherman, then the head of the physicians' association, agreed to organize medical help on long-term credit.

In Efter's room there was a supply of quinine which Dr. Ruppin had sent in from abroad: an apothecary's scale was found and the precious drug weighed, packaged and sent out to the various colonies. That was the beginning of Kupat Holim, which soon also set up hakmarim in the biggest settlements.

EFTER

An additional effort had to be made when the typhoid epidemic broke out. Sometimes the organizers had to go on foot from Haifa to Petah Tikva to find sheets and blankets for the sick and kind people to nurse them. Matters grew worse during World War One, when the Turks commandeered Jewish settlers to take wagons to the southern desert for their army.

"When an epidemic broke out in the desert," recalls Efter, "I went to Beersheba and organized the transport of the sick northward to the Jewish settlements. Some died on the way but in many cases we could help. There was no hotel in Beersheba, where the only visitors were Beduin. I had to sleep in a railway car and once, when I returned to Jaffa, I found myself so covered with lice that I had to throw away everything I was wearing."

Secretary of Kupat Holim

When Efter reported on these activities to one of the conferences of the Agricultural Workers' Organization he was elected secretary of Kupat Holim. Protesting that he still wanted to become an agricultural worker, he went to Degania and spent some years there until his father and sister arrived in this country. Joining them, he found work in Bet Shemen under Elazari Volkani, founder of the agricultural experimental station.

But in 1920 the Third Aliya began and the party claimed Efter again. As Secretary of the Agricultural Workers' Organization and of Kupat Holim, he took an active part in the founding of Degania Bet, Kinneret and Kiryat Anavim — and the tree nurseries at Beersheba and Hebron.

When Hapoel Hatzair joined hands with Ahdut Ha'avoda to form the Histadrut in 1920, Efter was elected its Secretary on behalf of his party, with Avraham Harzfeld representing Ahdut Ha'avoda. He remained in the top ranks of the Histadrut through the twenties, as the plans for a workers' economy were being worked out.

In 1929 he was designated to draw up a report on the position of Hamashbir, the Histadrut cooperative purchasing organization, which was then in difficulties; and when the report had been submitted he was asked to take over the institution from Bar-Zik, who was needed at the newly founded Workers' Bank. Efter's was to be a temporary appointment — but next month he will have served 30 years, during which he liquidated the old Mashbir and put Hamashbir Hamerkazi on a new basis.

When he took over, Efter had no idea of the theory or the practice of the cooperative movement. He went to Ruppin for advice, and was given a German book on cooperatives which can be seen in his library to this very day. But reading and theoretical knowledge played a secondary part in his development. He approached the problems of building up a cooperative enterprise for the supply of the labour settlements empirically. The result was a profit of £3,000 in 1921.

That there should be a profit at all was so surprising that Yosef Aharonovitch, one of the leaders of Hapoel Hatzair and the first director of the Workers' Bank, asked Tverosky to check Efter's figures. They proved correct.

Powerful Enterprise

Out of the modest cooperative that was designed to supply the settlements there has since then grown up a very powerful enterprise which has not been content with wholesale purchasing. Hamashbir Hamerkazi has developed an important industrial branch and expanded into the retail grocery trade through its *hanuyot* and into the market for shoes and clothing through Hamashbir Latzarkan.

"If a private individual had done what Hamashbir has done," says Efter, "he would have grown immensely rich. But we have always ploughed back our profits. We have been able to help the settlements get what they need at fair prices; and our latest activities on the retail market show that we can help bring down urban consumers' prices as well."

Although Efter is inseparable from Hamashbir in the public mind, today the enterprise is managed by a board of 15 directors, seven of whom draw salaries, and staffed by a host of engineers, chemists, refrigeration and machinery experts, experienced buyers and skilled personnel of all kinds. Efter acknowledges with a smile that he gets less pay than one of his engineers, but finds it natural: "I am employed by the Histadrut and that, of course, means a lower salary than that of a skilled Hamashbir employee."

The visitor is struck by the calmness and patience of this top Histadrut executive at the head of a IL250m. enterprise. Not much of an orator, he drives his points home by patient explanation rather than brilliant showmanship or ideological acrobatics. But he sticks to his guns — and he usually gets what he wants.

Efter has always worked in close contact with his party — first Hapoel Hatzair and then Mapai — and with the Histadrut Executive.

When the storm over Solel Boneh broke there was talk about breaking up Tnuva and Hamashbir as well, but there are much fewer complaints about Hamashbir than about Tnuva, and discipline and circumspection make Efter much less vulnerable than was Hillel Dan.

In the U.S. a man like Efter would probably have made millions, although he denies it. "There," he says, "I would probably have become a Zionist organization official." Here he has made no money at all but has had the immense satisfaction of developing a huge enterprise. His life story demonstrates two things: that Israel is a country of boundless opportunities and that the leading members of its ruling old guard are men of boundless adaptability.

GERDA LUFT

Jews Disappear from China

By a Special Correspondent

IT appears that in the near future Jewish gravestones will be all that is left to bear witness to the existence of China's short-lived 20th century Jewish community, whose liquidation is part of the dramatic process of disintegration which most of the small Jewish communities in the Far East are undergoing.

This community, which is now fast approaching the final stages of liquidation, is not the first to arise, flourish, and disappear in the vast human sea of the Chinese people. In the opinion of historians there was a pre-Talmudic period of Jewish migration to China, but it is an established fact that, as a result of persecution, Jews from Persia came to that country in the 3rd century C.E. While little is known about these first settlers, they must have been followed by other Jews who came over the Old Silk Road through Samarkand. In Kaifengfu, where they formed a community, the first synagogue was built in 1163 by express permission of the Emperor Sung. But in other cities, too, there were Jews known in the 13th and 14th century as "the sect that plucks out the sinew." Cut off from the rest of the Jewish people and its regenerating influence, the Jews of Kaifengfu tried hard to maintain their Jewish character throughout the centuries. *But their readiness to assimilate and to integrate inevitably spelled their doom. They adopted the customs of the Chinese and intermarried, and soon became indistinguishable from the other inhabitants.*

End of Kaifengfu

When its last rabbi died in about 1800, the Jewish community of Kaifengfu was unable to secure a successor. The absence of spiritual guidance, coupled with intermarriage and assimilation, then brought about the complete disintegration of the community, which had to be written off as a total loss to the Jewish people. It is said that if excavations were carried out in Kaifengfu and at Ningpo, just south of Shanghai, valuable monuments could probably be discovered relating to the rise and fall of the Jewish community in medieval China.

When the first breaches were made in the second half of the 19th century into the Chinese wall of centuries-long separation from the rest of the world, Jews of Indian and Iraqi origin followed the seaway of commercial penetration and settled in Shanghai and other coastal cities. The first Jewish community in modern China was thus mainly Sephardic, formed by the Sassoons, Kadoories, and other Jewish industrialists and their employees. But after the Russo-Japanese War in 1905 a number of Russian Jews settled in North China. They were reinforced after the Russian Revolution in 1917 by the arrival of thousands of middle-class Russian Jews who sought safety in Manchuria. Overnight, religious and communal institutions sprang up in Harbin and Mukden. But the Japanese invasion of Manchukuo (Manchuria) in 1931 seriously affected the life of these communities, and forced a new migration of the Russian Jews to the south, mainly to Tientsin, Hankow, and Shanghai. At that time the number of Jews in China was estimated at 15,000 to 20,000. They set up communal organizations also in Dairen, Peking, Nanking, Tsingtao, and other localities.

In the period from 1933, when Hitler's persecution of Jews started with intensity, till 1941, the number of Jews in Shanghai increased to almost 35,000. Shanghai was open to emigrés without visas, which, of course, attracted victims of Nazi persecution. Austrian, German, Czech and later on Polish Jews arrived, the latter mostly via Kobe, Japan, in the first period of the German-Polish war.

Shanghai Ghetto

Until 1945, the Jewish refugees from Europe who lived in Shanghai were segregated and placed in a "ghetto" in the northern part of the city. At first the Japanese authorities, then in control of Shanghai, treated them relatively leniently. Later, when Nazi German pressure became stronger, the lot of these Jews deteriorated, though Japanese treatment never approached anything like Nazi brutality except for some exceptional cases.

When in 1945 the Allies won the war, first in Europe, then against Japan, Jews in Shanghai immediately set to work with the proverbial Jewish endurance and determination to reorganize their Jewish life and to rebuild their institutions, but the establishment of Communist rule over the whole mainland of China in the course of 1949 soon squashed these stirrings. The Jews had to take up again the wandering staff. The economic policy of an ideologically alien regime superimposed upon a community of an alien culture left no room for them. Assimilation was not possible for the Jews nor was it wanted by them. They did not choose integration but emigration.

In a little over 10 years the number of Jews in China has dwindled from 50,000 to 20+ (293 in 1957). As of June 30, 1958, there were left in Shanghai 84 Jews (109 in 1957), 33 in Tientsin (35), and 179 in Harbin (239). None are listed any longer for Dairen and Mukden.

In Shanghai the nine remaining children get some Jewish education, synagogue services are conducted regularly and matzot were baked for Passover with the sympathetic concurrence of the authorities; the Harbin community continues its charitable activities and daily synagogue services. The authorities have informed both communities that no further burials should be effected in their present cemeteries, within the city limits. Some of these cemeteries will have to be transferred. The departure of Tientsin's remaining 33 Jews is expected shortly.

Few Left

There is no possibility for the Jews to lead a useful life in China. Those who still remain are confined to their own "four square yards," without any real contact with the Chinese people and its life. The only contact open to them is that with the Chinese authorities. And the authorities manifest sympathy and helpfulness toward the needs of the dwindling Jewish community.

In Israel, the Jews from China have set up the Igud Olei Sin (Union of Immigrants from China). (*WJC*)

Communist Jews Fight Emigration

By N. SHRAGA

POLAND'S Jewish communists no longer view emigration to Israel with equanimity. They have decided to act.

With 40,000 survivors of Poland's Jewish community having left for Israel in the past two years, the Jewish Communists, who had not criticised their Government's liberal policy in this respect previously, are now expressing unqualified opposition.

"We cannot but disapprove of any attempt to solve the Jewish question by emigration from Poland. Talk of emigration can only harm the struggle of Jews everywhere for their rights. Experience shows that Popular Poland can offer Jewish life every opportunity for consolidation. I believe that the time has come for a comprehensive education campaign showing up the great damage that emigration can do," Dr. David Sfarad, one of Poland's leading Jewish Communists, told a recent plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Social Cultural League, the highest Jewish institution in Poland.

'Not to Advantage'

Dr. Sfarad did his best to conciliate this declaration with the state's official policy by stressing that it "did not contradict the humanitarian and democratic approach of our Government." But one of the main flaws in his organization's work, he continued, had been the fact that it had undertaken no information campaign to show the Jews of Poland that, while they were free to leave the country, it was not to their advantage to do so.

To judge by reports in "Folkstimme," the Polish Jewish daily, from now on Poland's "Yevsektzia" will roll up its sleeves to "educate" Poland's Jews. At that very meeting Mr. Feivel Weiner added: "We have received touching messages from people who have gone to Israel and other countries. Men and women who held important positions here are in a tragic position over there, without work and with no way out."

"We cannot afford to remain neutral with regard to emigration on the part of Poland's Jews. We must firmly proclaim that the place of Jews is in Popular Poland, in a country that is building socialism," concluded the Communist Jewish leader, Michal Mirski.

Meantime the social and economic position of Poland's Jews is improving, according to reports read at the meeting, although a substantial part of the credit for this must go to the activities of ORT.

Nineteen-fifty-eight saw the establishment of 11 new Jewish cooperatives employing 697 workers. Nineteen vocational courses instead of four are currently being given, with a combined enrolment of 2,439. The number of subscribers to "Folkstimme" rose during the year by 30 per cent, although part of this increase at least must be accounted for by thousands of Jewish families repatriated from the U.S.S.R., many of whose members cannot read Polish. The Jewish theatre under Ida Kaminska is doing well and recently returned from a successful trip through the Jewish centres of Western Europe.

These facts, some of which can be credited to the policies and the stability of Poland's Government, have encouraged the Jewish Communists in their drive, the success of which is likely to be largely determined by the extent to which Israel succeeds in absorbing its new arrivals from Poland.

NEW APPROACHES TO THE PAST

By SHIMON APPLEBAUM

THE central and principal aim of archaeology is the illumination of the development (or decline) of man and his society from period to period.

Dating, classification, artistic appreciation, philological study or the investigation of techniques are contributory functions or by-products of archaeological research, but not its principal mission. Whoever loses sight of man as the central aim has forgotten the wood and sees only trees.

Anyone, moreover, who thinks that archaeology is a luxury in civilized society would do well to remember that the Nazi racist doctrine rose on the basis of a false subjective view of history. Archaeological findings prove that the last physically "pure" groups were lost before written history opened in Europe and that the characteristics of such as have been traceable bore little or no reference to their cultural level, as, in so far as they did, their cultures were enriched and progressed by mutual influences, borrowings and intermixtures.

Cultural Development

The history of Judaism is the history of a physically non-homogeneous group whose cultural development was the synthesis of a strongly-held individuality with the absorption of numerous extraneous influences both material and intellectual. This means that while our national renascence has justifiably furnished us with the opportunity of rediscovering the role of Jews in this country in various aspects, it remains doubly incumbent upon us not to ignore the non-Jewish factors of our history, much less to sacrifice a scientific approach to unbalanced assertive nationalism for the Jewish aspect.

On the other hand, we are obliged to remember that it requires very close scrutiny to discover in Jewish archaeology more than the shadows of Jewish ethical culture, and but for the written records, it would tell us little enough of such — an object-lesson and a warning to archaeological materialists.

In a previous article we referred to a tendency in Israel archaeology to lose the humanist wood for the trees of technique. Whether or not the time has come for a synthesizing of results such as can produce provisional reconstructions of social conditions in one period or another, is a matter of evaluation and discussion. What is quite definite is that the scientific approach must proceed from hypothesis to hypothesis if its work is not to be aimless and superficial.

Possibilities and Neglect

Let us take some examples of achievements, possibilities and neglect in this field. The excavations at Tel Bet Mirsim in southern Judea from 1926 to 1932, gave rise to certain interpretations by the excavator, Professor Albright, which, right or wrong, ought to rouse thought and methodological imitation. He noticed that while in the Middle and Late Bronze Ages the houseplans indicated an aristocratic government, a wealthy minority and less privileged elements, and the character of the city wall is likely to have necessitated the use of forced labour, the structure of the Israelite dwellings after Joshua's conquest indicated an absence of class divisions, and the lack of repairs to the fortifications suggested that it was no longer possible to force free members of the new Jewish community to contribute unrequited labour.

Furthermore, while in the earlier Israelite period [illegible] male wars were kept within the town and corn-silos abounded there, in the later period of the divided monarchy, animal remains were absent, but there was evidence of textile manufacture and dyeing, from which Albright concluded that latterly agriculture was carried on in farms or villages outside the town, which now devoted itself rather to industry and trade.

Professor Albright's theses are thought-provoking, and direct attention to the exploration of sites about the ancient urban centres.

Regional Surveys

Regional surveys have progressed considerably in recent years, and several have been published (eg. the Beisan valley, part of Galilee and the Yarmuk Region). Yet very little has been done to study the varying relationships from period to period of town to country or of rural sites to each other, in the light of texts and of the finds themselves. What, specially, was the ancient Hebrew countryside, and what the ancient Canaanite or Hebrew city? How does the social structure of tribe and kindship look when translated into archaeological distribution, and does the distribution change when noble landholders add field to field? What was the form of field and homestead, the relation of village to town? Can we trace the clearance of woodland and the consequent social and economic changes? And what, in this context, is the social significance of the pillared dwelling-house whose prevalence in Israelite towns has been re-emphasized at Hazor?

To make the possibilities of regional research more concrete, one might allude to the Sharon region, where both royal cattle ranches and potteries seem to have existed in the Biblical period, [illegible] mainly swampy owing to the piling up of winter run-off behind the coastal ridge. Gaps were certainly made to drain this surplus water to seaward — but what was their date? Elsewhere, something has recently been done to relate rural sites both to water-sources and to soil-types in the Mesor region — but this work, in view of the availability of recently completed soil-surveys, needs vast extension.

In the Second Temple period we are faced with rich literary evidence which has been little supplemented as yet by regional study (although Dr. Kaplan's researches in the Tel-Aviv-Yavneh district are encouraging); we may suggest a few specimen problems. What was the rural setting of Bet Shearim, and what did the townlet of Bar'am look like? (A bulldozer could clear the debris of the abandoned Arab village to a tactful distance above the occupation level coinciding with that of the surviving 3rd century synagogue). Late Roman documents tell us plainly that the population structure of the state-lands west of Beersheba was tribal; how is this reflected in the character and distribution of the finds, and what is their relation, for instance, to the Nirim synagogue?

Major Motive

It would not be difficult to multiply such problems, but a no less relevant question might be: To what extent are our archaeologists aware of them, to what extent do they influence our archaeological planning, and in what measure does the desire to gain a clearer and more integrated picture of past societies through a study of man, his environment and his associated ideas and structures, duly interpreted and synthesized, constitute the major motive of archaeological [illegible] would ...

ISRAEL'S LUNAR PROBE

"ISRAEL Does It" — "Egypt head on Target"—"Cohens first on Moon!" screamed the world's headlines, hard on the heels of the Soviet success. The scientific bigwigs and newspaper doyens had hardly finished explaining the last cosmic probe when, on a clear dry day, Israel dispatched its mighty ambassador to outer space, leaving behind it a world staggered by the audacity of a small country, and puzzled as to how it had the millions for such a project.

The answer to this apparent riddle only turned the Powers' bewilderment into sheepishness. For the cost of the Israel lunar rocket was merely the price of an Egged diesel bus. This highly improbable but true fact became public knowledge almost immediately, despite the blackout imposed by official quarters.

What was the secret of this extraordinary missile, a common silver blue grimy-pated Egged diesel bus? The exhaust supplied the thrust which sent the machine hurtling moonwards.

At first, reports circulated that the bus, up-ended on its rear, had been launched from a pad in the Tel Aviv central bus station. This early account by alleged eye-witnesses was subsequently proved incorrect although newspaper reporters, hard-pressed to explain the mysterious event, had meantime furnished full imaginary details, such as, for example, that the bus was manned by two persons, a driver and someone with whom he could chat while travelling.

With the rocket-bus making a bee-line for the moon, this account would have remained undisputed; Egged maintained an ominous silence, neither denying nor affirming this early report except to confirm that the bus indeed belonged to Egged. But the next day the truth emerged.

A diesel bus was merrily plying the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway, blithely negotiating the hills, when suddenly, rising steadily and at a steep gradient into [illegible] exhaust roaring, it simply took off, up into the blue sky.

Indeed, after the news broke, a gang of J.N.F. forestry workers in the Jerusalem Corridor remembered that they had seen a strange all-very cigar-like object in the sky, leaving behind a dark nimbus cloud. A number of land-parched farmers in nearby settlements were even led to believe that at last rain was about to fall.

It an official statement from its headquarters in Tel Aviv, the company proclaimed: This is an historic day in the annals of the company and indeed of the nation as a whole. The public can rest assured that we, who have pioneered transport from Dan to Eilat, will not disappoint in this epoch-making journey. We have the utmost confidence that our driver, a full share-holder member, will live up to the company's motto of "Where there's a wheel, there's a way."

Will the bus reach the moon, and if so, will it land? As the gleaming bus thunders on its relentless way through outer space, losing momentum but still with apparently enough thrust to gain the objective, the company has been besieged by scientific delegations seeking what has become known as "the Secret of the Exhaust."

SHALOM COHEN

THE RED & THE BLACK

By GEORGE LICHTHEIM

DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM. By Gustav A. Wetter. A Historical and Systematic Survey of Philosophy in the Soviet Union (Translated from the German). Routledge & Kegan Paul, London. 1958. pp. 608. 21s.6d.

WHEN the German edition of this work appeared in 1952 it was instantly recognized as the most comprehensive study of Soviet philosophy hitherto published outside the U.S.S.R. (or, for that matter, anywhere at all, since no comparable work is conceivable under Soviet auspices). The lapse of time has not altered this impression. That it is shared by some people on the other side is evident from the publication of an officially sponsored rejoinder by an East German Communist writer. (Georg Klaus: *Jesuiten, Gott, Materie. Das Jesuitenpaters Wetter Bezuhte wider Vernunft und Wissenschaft.* Berlin, 1957.)

By contrast, Soviet critics have kept remarkably quiet about Prof. Wetter, save for some brief and generally misleading references here and there. This is all the more noteworthy since this Austrian Jesuit and Rector at the Collegium Russicum (part of the Papal Institute of Oriental Sciences) offers a much broader target than the majority of Western writers on the subject. Originally projected in 1948, and partly executed in an Italian-language study some years later, his work has gradually assumed dimensions which place it in a class different from the slighter though valuable studies published by I.M. Bochenski (*Der Sowjet-russische Dialektische Materialismus*, Berne, 1950) and Herbert Marcuse (*Soviet Marxism*, New York and London, 1958). At present it must be regarded as the standard work on the subject, and even readers who do not share the author's viewpoint have been placed heavily in his debt.

That so massive a factual study should have issued from the Vatican is of course no accident. To quote Franz Borkenau's review of the earlier German edition:

"In Wetter's work we are in the presence of the first full-dress theoretical encounter between Soviet philosophy and neo-Thomism, an event of more than theoretical significance. That the Catholic thinker has the better of the argument can hardly be doubted."

For the most part the ideological clash is implicit rather than overt in Prof. Wetter's analysis of Soviet philosophy. Although its categories are repeatedly contrasted with those of Aristoteleanism and Thomism, this is not in the main a polemical work, but a careful investigation into the history and the present structure of Soviet Marxism.

In the process an enormous literature, much of it ephemeral in form and content, is thoroughly analysed and digested, so that the reader is enabled to follow the progress of even quite minor Soviet doctrinaires through the ideological (and political) jungle of the "discussions" held over the past four decades to determine the correct philosophical line on everything, from the dialectic itself to its sadly mangled appearance in the writings of Stalin. This exhaustive historical account is then followed by a no less thorough and systematic investigation of the theoretical structure of Soviet philosophy, starting from its most general categories and leading, via a consideration of its formal and material logic, to such oddities as the treatment of Einstein, and the notorious "discussion" inaugurated by Lysenko.

Only at the end are we reminded that the author's interest in the subject is not purely academic, for in his concluding chapter Thomism and Leninism are brought face to face, their similarities being noted with a candour which does honour to Prof. Wetter and may even cause embarrassment to some of his co-religionists. It is here that we are told:

"One of the most surprising things that our exposition of the Soviet philosophical system has revealed to us is the existence of a very wide-ranging correspondence between certain fundamental categories of thought and lines of inquiry in Soviet philosophy on the one hand, and those of Scholasticism, or even Thomism, on the other" (p. 536).

How far is this resemblance purely external? Although the author is careful to remind his readers that the revolutionary and atheistic character of Leninism renders illusory all hope of genuine accommodation, he is emphatic in asserting that so far as its present intellectual structure is concerned, the resemblance is more than merely formal:

"We think it no exaggeration to maintain that dialectical materialism, in its present-day official, Soviet form, bears a far greater resemblance to the 'forma mentis' of Scholasticism than to that of Hegelian dialectics, notwithstanding the presence of certain Hegelian concepts and expressions which are still adhered to though robbed by the 'materialist inversion' of their dialectical meaning, and accorded an interpretation which is simply that appropriate to ordinary common sense" (pp. 556/7).

In support of this contention, Wetter notes that what Soviet epistemologists, following Lenin, call "materialism" can equally well be described, in traditional language, as "realism," since it involves no more than a rejection of "subjective idealism," i.e., a recognition of the truth that "the world" is independent of our senses. His lengthy analysis of Lenin's philosophical writings emphasizes, however, that though the transition from epistemological "realism" to "materialism" (i.e., denial of spirit as an independent entity) reflects muddled thinking, it was nonetheless necessitated by the internal logic of the Bolshevik Weltanschauung.

In principle, realism (in the traditional philosophical meaning of the term) does not entail materialism, but for Lenin — as before him for Engels — it did. The source of this attitude is extra-philosophical and not reducible to logical argument. The transition can be shown to have operated by way of an antecedent rejection of "spirit" in the Hegelian sense of the term, which still reflected the lingering influence of theology.

In Wetter's view, which will be shared by many non-Thomists, the subsequent attempt to found a dialectical logic upon a consistent materialism results in an insoluble problem: either the system ceases to be dialectical, or else "matter" must be reinterpreted so as to leave room for spirit. In practice, faced with this dilemma, Soviet philosophy since the early Stalin period has opted for the former. Wetter is consequently able to argue that in current Soviet philosophy the dialectic plays no real part:

"It may still be present, indeed, in the thought of the early Marx, and its influence may even be detectable in Lenin, albeit to a very much slighter degree. But present-day Soviet philosophy consciously dissociates itself from the early philosophy of Marx... In the course of the development from early Marx to contemporary Soviet dialectical materialism, a breach occurs somewhere — and in our opinion it was definitely made by Engels. Hence it has come about that in Soviet philosophy nowadays dialectic betokens an evolutionism progressing via the emergence and dissolution of opposites. It may be that a truly philosophical working-out of certain of the positions entertained in modern Soviet philosophy would inevitably lead to a true dialectic, as Marx and Hegel conceived it. But the Soviet philosophers never pursue this in any systematic way" (p. 550).

With all this it is possible to agree without in the least sharing the author's own standpoint. Wetter, however, does not altogether face the question how this transformation has come about. Instead he drifts off into a discussion of the resemblances between Leninism and the "religious atheism" of earlier nineteenth century Russian radicals. ("At those very points where Lenin has exercised a decisive influence on Soviet philosophy, there are striking points of contact to be found between dialectical materialism and non-Marxist tendencies in Russian philosophy.")

This subject is of greater relevance for the history of Bolshevism than for the analysis of Soviet Marxism as an intellectual system. Since Wetter notes that the decisive breach in the continuity from Hegel to Lenin was made by Engels, and since he expressly underlines the strong positivist element in Engel's thought, he might have laid greater stress on those aspects of the system which refer back to French eighteenth century materialism and ideology of the enlightenment. This would have entailed further considerations on the parallelism between the French and the Russian pre-revolutionary developments — possibly an awkward subject from Wetter's standpoint.

Notwithstanding these criticisms, which could be extended to the book's altogether inadequate treatment of Hegel, and of German Idealism in general, a reviewer who approaches the subject from a different standpoint must in all candour describe this work as a monumental achievement. Merely as a display of scholarship there is something overwhelming about it. Moreover, the exposition is not merely lucid but elegant, and the irony with which some of the more preposterous Soviet pronouncements in the fields of logic and epistemology are treated is held in check by an evident determination to be fair to opponents who may have something important to say.

Wetter indeed displays considerable regard not merely for the formal ability of pre-Stalinist Russian Marxists such as Plekhanov, L.I. Axelrod, and even Deborin (the latter a philosophical weathercock who successfully outlasted all storms), but even manages to treat Stalin seriously as a theorist, at any rate in the fields of history and politics. This feat deserves some mention, though it is not necessarily commendable. It is possible to feel that in commenting favourably on some of Stalin's well-known innovations in the domain of political theory, Wetter has failed to note the authoritarian implications of the dictator's stress on the "creative" role of the "superstructure." What at first glance looks like mere common sense, turns out on inspection to entail the restoration of the autocracy to its traditional role in Russian political thinking: a "superstructure" as powerful as that envisaged by Stalin does indeed represent a considerable departure from "historical materialism," except for reasons that are altogether non-theoretical. It is an index to the importance of Wetter's great work that even where one disagrees with him, one finds oneself drawn into a consideration of themes which are central to the phenomenon of Soviet Communism.

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Californian Triangle

YOUNG MR. KEESE. By S. Birmingham. 250 pp. $3.95.

A BRILLIANT expository chapter, written with a degree of craftsmanship pointing to an old hand, together with a tenderness of feeling endearingly youthful, whet the reader's appetite. A few of the following chapters are quite as good as this first, and only one falls signally — the last, where Mr. Birmingham disappointingly dots his I's and crosses his T's most uncharacteristically, far too neatly tying up all loose ends at one fell stroke, if I may be allowed to mix metaphors.

It is a triangle story with a carefully painted-in Californian background, but most of the protagonists come from the East, and from the "aristocratic East" at that, where the millions are assiduously hidden rather than flaunted. Young Mr. Keefe is the son of a nice hard-ware manufacturer and his bitchy wife — the adjective is her own, used in one of her rare moments of insight. The boy has married a Californian girl he met when she was on a visit to New York, a shadowy girl, the one figure who in spite of many explanations does not come out convincingly. The snobbish mother-in-law tries to break up the marriage and succeeds. Jimmy Keefe, who has been drinking hard in his terrible disappointment, and is being pursued by another rather bitchy young woman, the wife of his best friend, steadfastly clings to the rock of his determination to make good on his own in his job in Sacramento and at the same time to try and get back his wife, who has produced a son for him after the separation. The story begins after the break-up of the marriage, most skilfully (and without any of the tiresome trickery often used nowadays) brings in the past with Jimmy musing on it at appropriate moments, and carries on successfully until, at the last, it fails. I have the feeling that young Mr. Birmingham got sick of it. He must be very, very young, as the picture on the wrapper suggests, which is that of a dreamy-eyed schoolboy rather than a full-fledged writer. Also, the lack of the usual biography on that wrapper seems to suggest a pseudonym. However that may be — possibly another hoax on the lines of the "Amanda Vail" trick, here is certainly a great hope. Construction, characterisic, dialogue, and style are all first-class. *PAULA ARNOLD*

Maugham's Last Book

By LAURENCE BRANDER

POINTS OF VIEW. by W. Somerset Maugham. Heinemann, 21s.

WHEN an author who has been entertaining us for 61 years announces that his latest book is going to be his last we feel an immediate pang of regret. Somerset Maugham has just published this most amusing collection of essays. He says he will publish no more and one of the noticeable things about his long career as a writer is that he has planned every stage of it and he has stuck to his plan.

It is 61 years since he published "Liza of Lambeth," probably the best of the Cockney novels that were fashionable at that time. He wrote it as a medical student, after he had done his midwifery cases in the slums. He remarked on television the other day that he never practised as a doctor but was very proud that he had brought 63 children into the world.

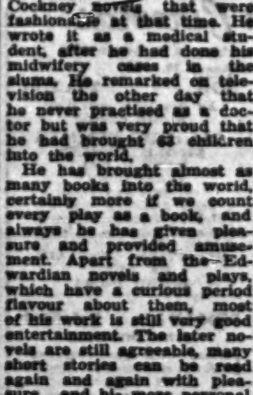
He has brought almost as many books into the world, certainly more if we count every play as a book, and always he has given pleasure and provided amusement. Apart from the Edwardian novels and plays, which have a curious period flavour about them, most of his work is still very good entertainment. The later novels are still agreeable, many short stories can be read again and again with pleasure, and his more personal writings such as "The Summing Up" and "The Gentleman in the Parlour" are amongst the best of their kind.

The delightful thing is that he is writing as amusingly as ever. In "Ten Novelists" and in "The Vagrant Mood," he has shown that he is master of the short biography. Biography is creative writing with assistance, and Somerset Maugham has clearly enjoyed himself immensely in recent years in writing short lives. He does so in "Points of View," with a difference. He uses the authority of great age and writes with a directness that completely lacks compassion. Men and women behave like that and human behaviour may be described without reticence. He is out-spoken in a way that only the very old can be. The young medical student, who watched sickness breaking down human defences and bringing out the worst in people, has become the aged author writing of human frailty with practised ease.

It is sophisticated amusement. As in his other critical books, Maugham allows us to see that he is a cosmopolitan. The parody of a Henry James short story is charming. The comments on Maupassant, Poe and Kipling add to our pleasure in these writers and extend what Maugham has said in earlier essays. This is even more true of the long discussion on Chekhov which adds considerably to what he said in the Preface to the collection of stories called "Altogether." True, his short life of Katherine Mansfield in the article on the short story is too frank to be everyone's taste. His biographies of four Frenchmen who kept diaries, the de Goncourts, Jules Renard and Paul Léautaud, are pretty near the knuckle at times, as we say.

At the other extreme is his life of the Indian holy man, which is so much in the long tradition of saints' lives that we are puzzled that Somerset Maugham should have written it. Facts and miracles are recorded in prosaic succession and it is quite impossible to decide whether a mask of scepticism is there or whether we see one because we expect it. The Goethe and the Tillotson essays do not seem to be so good, but that judgment may well be a personal weakness of the critic. It is noticeable that the reviewers have found that the best essay in "Points of View" is on the subject that interests them most. A book of essays could hardly be more highly praised, and this is such an engaging book that we must hope the author will relent and give us one more.

Stamp of the Week



Almost all the stamps of Laos, the former French Indo-Chinese territory now an independent kingdom within the French Union, have been designed and engraved by the same artists, Leguay and Pheulpin. This has given them a distinctive character which, coupled with their exquisite colouring and giant size, has made them very popular with collectors.

Among recent issues series the four marking the opening of the new Unesco building are particularly attractive. Laos is one of the few countries in which the collector can still hope to attain completeness, for in the seven years since its first issue fewer than a 100 stamps have appeared. *G. W. HILL*

OF TIME, MYTH AND SYMBOL

By Meir Mindlin

A man and woman building their house to pattern methodically. Edwin Muir

IT may seem strange to later generations that recognition came to Edwin Muir, who died last week at 71, only in the last decade of his life, but there are simple, objective reasons for the comparative neglect of so important a poet. He began to write verse very late, at the age of 35, after undergoing psychoanalytic treatment which released his imagination, and he spent many years abroad, in Central Europe, during the twenties and thirties, away from English literary circles. He was not involved in the fads and fashions of the time; he had started to write poetry, with a certain awkwardness at first, to express an intense and original vision of the world and of life. Beginning at first off the beaten track from the point of view of current fashion, over the years it gradually became clear that Muir was on a highway all his own, with an integrity that is beyond fashion, and that asserts itself whenever one returns to the poems. It is also necessary to add that the first collected edition of his poems (published by Faber) appeared only in 1953, and even then in the face of his own diffidence, for the volume was produced on the initiative of, and edited by, someone else, the young poet J.C. Hall, who has also written a short study of his work in the British Council "Writers and their Work" series (No. 71).

Time was his first preoccupation:

Time has such curious stretches, we are told,
And generation after generation
May travel them, and stationary journey.
Of what device, what meaning?
Yet these couriers
Have seen all and will see all. Supplinatly
The rocks will melt, the sealed horizons fall
Before their onset — and the places
Our hearts have hid in will be viewed by strangers
Sitting where we are, breathing the foreign air
Of the new realm they have inherited.
But we shall fall here on the plain.

Story and Fable

Man's imprisonment in time, and his struggle to transcend it are set by Muir in a mythological universe that has all the concrete particularity, as well as the strangeness, of a dream. In his "Autobiography" he wrote:

"In themselves our conscious lives may not be particularly interesting. But what we are not and can never be, our fable, seems to me inconceivably interesting." The tension of this double vision is what absorbed Muir and was the subject of most of his poetry. Metaphysical as his preoccupations were, they were projected into symbolic actions and situations drawn from the length and breadth of Greek and Biblical mythology, as if he were ranging through time up and down the metamorphoses of man. There is a marvellous poem called "Adam's Dream" (much too long to quote here at length) in which Adam foresees the coming generations:

...the plain was filling
As by an alien arithmetical magic
Unknown in Eden,
A mechanical
Addition without meaning, joining only
Number to number in no mode or order,
Weaving no pattern.
...Then in his changing dream
He was a little nearer, and he saw
They were about some business strange to him
That had a form and sequence past their knowledge;
And that was why they ran so frantically.

Adam's anguished cry "What are you doing there?" is echoed and diminished by the crag, and

The animals had withdrawn and from the caves
And woods stared out in fear or condemnation.
Like outlaws or like judges.

That is, man had become alienated from his immediate contact with nature and his direct relation to animals, a rich and recurrent theme in Muir's work: "The covenant of god and animal, / The frieze of fabulous creatures winged and crowned, / And in the midst the woman and the man — / Lost long ago in fields beyond the Fall —" ("The Covenant"). I often feel that Muir has been more successful in his treatment of this theme than Rilke.

Adam finds himself among those coming generations "and saw each face / Was like his face, so that he would have hailed them/ As sons of God but that something restrained him."

And he remembered all,
Eden, the Fall,
The Promise, and his place,
and took their hands
That were his hands, his and his children's hands.
Cried out and was at peace, and turned again

In love and grief in Muir's encircling arms.

Muir's visionary and myth-making qualities link him to Blake, and back to Vaughan and Traherne, and to the latter two especially in regard to a recollected radiance of eternity glimpsed in childhood; there is also a strong affinity to Hoelderlin. He was born in the Orkney Islands off Scotland, and raised on a farm there until he was 14, when the exactions of the absentee landlord drove his father to seek a livelihood in Glasgow. The transition from the pastoral life of the islands to the horrible industrial slums of the city produced a trauma that was to be exorcised only 30 years later, in the psychoanalysis mentioned above. The family disintegrated quickly, the father dying within a year, and the mother and two brothers dying soon after. The story of these terrible years, as well as that of the earlier Orkney years, and those that followed in London and on the continent, has been told by Muir in

EDWIN MUIR

"An Autobiography" (Hogarth Press) which has become a modern classic. His marriage in 1919 to Willa Anderson was "the most fortunate event in my life," as he wrote in the "Autobiography." Later, in the late twenties and the thirties, it was their translations of Kafka's works which brought the Prague writer's books to the attention of the English-speaking world.

Scottish Problem

Though he wrote books on Scottish subjects and problems ("John Knox," "Scottish Journey"), Muir merged into the English literary scene, for reasons that he made clear in "Scott and Scotland":

The practical present-day problem may be put somewhat as follows: Will a Scottish writer who wishes to achieve some approximation to completeness have no choice except to abandon the English tradition, and that if he thoroughly does so his work belongs not merely to Scottish literature but to English literature as well, the like other hand, if he wishes to add to an indigenous Scottish literature, and wants himself deliberately to Scotland, he will find there, no matter how long he may search neither the opportunity to round off his conceptions, nor a major literary tradition to support him, nor even a faith among the people themselves that a Scottish literature is possible or desirable nor any opportunity, finally, of making a livelihood by his work.

Muir was also a fine critic, and in his "Structure of the Novel," suggested a fruitful classification of the novel into the Character Novel ("Vanity Fair," "Tom Jones," Dickens) which "takes its figures, which never change very much, through changing scenes, through various modes of existence in society... the imaginative world of the Character Novel is in space;" the Dramatic Novel ("Wuthering Heights," Hardy, Jane Austen) which, "while not altering its setting, shows us the complete human range of experience in the actors themselves — the imaginative world of the Dramatic Novel is in time;" and the Chronicle ("War and Peace") in which human life is set against life in perpetual change, and not, as in the two other forms, against society and fate. In the Character Novel Time seems inexhaustible, in the Dramatic Novel there is a sense of time running out that sharpens the dramatic tension and emotion, while in the Chronicle, Time has a double movement, as both absolute process and as accidental manifestation. Muir wrote criticism regularly for the English weeklies, and many of his "Observer" articles have appeared on this page. In the first part of this decade he was Warden of a working men's university, Newbattle Abbey College, at Midlothian, Scotland.

Unity of Being

Muir will survive in his poetry: as Kathleen Raine has written, his "language is simple, his verse-forms few, characteristic and incantatory. Never does he use an image for its own sake, raw; image is determined by symbol, and symbol by myth. Such poetry takes us far towards a restoration of the lost unity of the art: as in ballad and epic, these three categories are inseparable; and through the poetic unity, we find our fragmented world coming together again, we regain what Yeats called *Unity of being.*"

THE DIFFICULT LAND

By Edwin Muir (1887-1959)

This is a difficult land. Here things miscarry
Whether we care, or do not care enough.
The grain may pine, the harlot weed grow haughty,
Sun, rain, and frost alike conspire against us:
You'd think there was malice in the very air.
And the spring floods and summer droughts: our fields
Mile after mile of soft and useless dust.
On dull delusive days presaging rain
We yoke the oxen, go out harrowing,
Walk in the middle of an ochre cloud,
Dust rising before us and falling again behind us,
Slowly and gently settling where it lay.
These days the earth itself looks sad and senseless.
And when next day the sun mounts hot and hasty
We shake our fists and kick the ground in anger.
We have strange dreams: as that, in the early morning
We stand and watch the silver drift of stars
Turn suddenly to a flock of black-birds flying.
And once in a lifetime men from over the border,
In early summer, the season of fresh campaigns,
Come trampling down the corn, and kill our cattle.
These things we know and by good luck or guidance
Either frustrate or, if we must, endure.
We are a people; race and speech support us,
Ancestral rits and custom, roof and free.
Our songs that tell of our triumphs and disasters
(Fleeting alike), continuance of toil and hearth,
Our names and callings, work and rest and sleep,
And something that, defeated, still endures —
These things sustain us. Yet there are times
When name, identity, and our very hands,
Senselessly labouring, grow most hateful to us,
And we would gladly rid us of these burdens
(Which yet are knit to us as flesh to bone),
Enter our darkness through the doors of wheat
And the light veil of grass (leaving behind
Name, body, country, speech, vocation, faith)
And gather into the secrecy of the earth
Furrowed by broken ploughs lost deep in time.

We have such hours, but are drawn back again
By faces of goodness, faithful masks of sorrow,
Honesty, kindness, courage, fidelity,
The love that lasts a life's time. And the fields,
Homestead and stall and barn, springtime and autumn.
(For we can love even the wandering seasons
In their inhuman circuit.) And the dead
Who lodge in us so strangely, unremembered,
Yet in their place. For how can we reject
The long last look on the ever-dying face
Turned backward from the other face of time?
And how offend the dead and shame the living
By these despairs? And how refrain from love?
This is a difficult country, and our home.

From "One Foot in Eden," published by Faber & Faber, London, at 10s 6d.

Life and Letters

Living in Zen

In addition to Bertrand Russell's article mentioned last week, the January "Encounter" contains Richard Rumbold's "Zen and the Mood of the Universe," which describes his experiences in a Japanese Zen Buddhist monastery. There is also the second part of Arthur Koestler's study of Kepler, "The Sleepwalker," from his forthcoming book on cosmology. Parts of John Kenneth Galbraith's Notebook kept on his recent journey to Poland and Yugoslavia are given, from which we quote: "Stalinism in Poland is referred to as the terrible past which may well lie before us."

A current Yugoslav definition of the difference between capitalism and socialism: "Capitalism makes social mistakes, and socialism makes capital mistakes."

And finally: "At the university celebrations Oskar Lange commented on the brilliance and variety of the academic dress in contrast with the University of Chicago: 'You see the advantage of socialism when it has feudal traditions.'"

Virgil Thomson

In a thought-provoking article in the issue "Encounter," on "Finding the Great Tradition Star" in music, the American composer and critic Virgil Thomson calls for a basic change: "There is only one thing possible: to change the assumptions on which we (the composers) operate. We shall have to forget for a time about novelty and change and tradition and all such great big words. I suppose it is true that every generation has plenty of small ideas, technical and expressive ones, and that these ideas are all valid if sincerely and competently acted upon. It is better to work with the ideas one really has, however small they may seem, than to try to follow an unworn line of modernism-at-any-price. Especially in a time when there are so few 'modernistic' ideas available at any price. In other words, the tradition of constant change must be thrown overboard and freshness found through other preoccupations. . . .

We may well be reduced to seeking innovation through expressivity, instead of expressivity through innovation, and to finding expressivity through sincerity (though sincerity, at its purest, leads straight to anarchy and through anarchy to the destruction of both tradition and progress). Indeed, regarding musical composition, it is my belief that as of today only sincerity and anarchy are valid. There is no "good" line or "bad" line, nothing clearly "progressive" or "reactionary." We are no longer fighting from fixed positions, nor even amongst ourselves. We are fighting individually against the distributors and against the standardisers. We are fighting for our professional lives and for music's life."

Aerodynamics

The first Hebrew text dealing with aerodynamics, written by Technion Senior Lecturer David Ahir, has just been published by the Israel Air Force and Ma'archot, the army press. "Aerodynamics" is a book primarily intended to provide pilots and aeronautical technicians with a basic understanding of the physical principles of flight. The three hundred pages of the volume are richly illustrated with hundreds of photographs, diagrams and sketches. Subjects such as basic aerodynamics of subsonic and supersonic flight, the function of the propeller, explanation of the physics of wings, and the flow of air around bodies flying in the atmosphere are all thoroughly treated in the text. A glossary of technical terms in Hebrew-English is appended.

Inner Censor

At a recent conference of Polish writers held in Warsaw, strong protests were voiced against the censorship, one young poet remarking that "the strongest censor is within us — fear and hunger."

GIFT FOLIO

JEWISH FACES. By M. Bernstein. 12 folio plates. Foreword by E. Kolb Tavneh, Tel Aviv.

THIS is a handsome gift folio strikingly printed on high quality paper, an increasingly popular form of art publishing here. A child of economic necessity, the folio format makes it possible to do local artists justice, without going to the expense of producing a complete book (and without the artist having to find enough material for a complete book).

Bernstein's pen and ink drawings reproduce well; they are striking enough to make a dramatic impression. Although the artist has been here over ten years he still deals in the sentimental idealized approach to the Polish Jewish type. But the source is genuine at least. At first glance one is inclined to regard the drawings as "Mea Shearim." A closer look reveals a different type, the true Jew of the Ghetto of the Galut that was. And Bernstein can draw. *M.R.*

CRIME RATION

THE CASE OF THE FOOTLOOSE DOLL. By E.S. Gardner. Morrow, New York. 1953. 243 pp., $2.95.

THIS time Mr. Gardner has drawn a little too strongly on coincidence. He needs no less than three pretty girls, all superficially alike, all brokenhearted by defaulting lovers at the same moment — for the purpose of developing his cunning plot. Also, Perry Mason sticks out his neck absurdly far. Nevertheless, it is a marvel how that teeming brain (Mr. Gardner's, not Mason's) goes on indefatigably inventing new puzzles. He must be nearing the 100 mark, and all in 25 years. The courtroom scene in the book is again the main delight. It is a preliminary hearing this time, meaning not before a jury, but before a single judge, who has to dismiss the case or to send it on to a jury. This hearing takes up quite half of the book — an admirable four *de force.* *P.A.*

COOPERATION

Two new publications in Arabic on the local Arab Cooperation Movement have been published by the Ministry of Labour.

One is an Arabic language translation of the Cooperative Societies Law, translated by Kamel Nofhawi. The second, an 83-page illustrated pamphlet called "With the Arab Cooperatives in Israel," is a resumé of the accomplishments and development of the Arab Cooperative Movement.

From Space-Ship to Shmittah

HA-GAN L'LO ADAMAH. (A Garden Without Soil). By Walter Frankl. (With Drawings by Brigitte Frankfurter). Hadar Books, Tel Aviv. 104 pp., IL2.500.

HYDROPONICS, the science of soilless gardening, has been suggested as a solution for the problem of providing space-travellers with fresh fruit and vegetables in their space-ships, and it must be admitted that to the uninitiate there is a touch of science fiction about the subject, though after perusing Mr. Frankl's excellent book on the subject, one is likely to feel one's feet more on the ground — sorry, water.

At the other extreme from science-fiction, we find hydroponics providing a solution to the agricultural needs of the religiously orthodox during their sabbatical year *(shmittah)*, when they are not supposed to till the ground, and boxes of sawdust bearing vegetables can be seen in many orthodox settlements.

This is the first book on the subject written in Hebrew, and as a matter of fact the only one yet available in the language. Thus it is a matter of particular satisfaction that this slim volume should cover the subject so thoroughly and clearly, enabling any interested reader to proceed with his own efforts at hydroponic gardening. The science may be said to have started about a century ago, with Prof. Justus von Liebig's researches on the chemical composition of plant nutrition, to be followed up by Lack's and Knopp's laboratory demonstrations of von Liebig's calculations. And there the matter rested for some 90 years or so, until Prof. William F. Gericke of Berkeley University, California, went in for hydroponics in 1940 in a really big way, showing that hydroponic crops could be grown in a layer of sawdust on wire netting suspended over tanks of water containing nutrient salts. The science became really important and practical during the Second World War when the U.S. Army (and the R.A.F. in the Bahrein Gulf) used hydroponics to grow all the vitamin and mineral-rich (and amoebas-free) vegetables needed for whole divisions.

Plants grown hydroponically at the Rehavia Secondary School by Mr. Walter Frankl, whose book on soilless gardening is reviewed on this page.

The science is especially important here in Israel because two-thirds of our country is non-arable, but we have a surfeit of sunshine throughout the year and are rich in the requisite chemicals (potassium, magnesium, sulphur, calcium, etc.). The Jewish Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture have set up a hydroponic experimental station near Beersheba (in addition to the station run by the author of this book in Jerusalem at the Rehavia Secondary School) and a small hydroponic farm has been set up by "Mishan," the management of the Home for the Aged in Holon, which is run by Israel Prize Winner Dr. Selig Soskin, the pioneer hydroponist in this country. Over a dunam of space is devoted to mechanised hydroponics in Kibbutz Hefets Haim. The subject is also being pursued vigorously in a number of schools under the direction of the Ministry of Education. Important new possibilities in the field may be opened up by Mr. Frankl himself, who has started the experimental raising of fish in hydroponic tanks.

The book is nicely illustrated with drawings and photographic plates. Though carefully presented on the whole, we suggest that the misprint on page 26 ($NaNO_3$ instead of NaCl) and the omission of the number 4 in the conversion of an acre to dunams on page 99, be corrected in future editions. *A. HARLAP*

British Critics Cool To Soviet Art Exhibit

LONDON. — The first representative exhibition of Soviet paintings to be held in Western Europe has left British critics notably unmoved by the "boy meets tractor" school of art.

Writing in "The Daily Telegraph," Terence Mullaly warned his readers at the outset that "the genius of Russia has never primarily expressed itself in painting" and that "it would be absurd to pretend that this exhibition comes as a revelation." The show ranges from the 13th century up through the post-revolutionary years to the present.

50 Years Behind

In "The News Chronicle," Wilma Moy-Thomas said that her inspection of such Soviet moderns as "The Tractor Driver's Supper," painted seven years ago, had convinced her that "the Soviet Union turns out to be 50 years behind this country in its taste in art."

Like her finding that modern Soviet art seemed old-fashioned, Hannen Swaffer wrote in "The Daily Herald" that not even Sir Winston Churchill, described as "a vehement enemy" of modernist art, would have "one tiny, little shock" from a visit to the Russian show.

Mr. Swaffer's criticism of "The End" of Hitler in his Berlin bunker as an "overdramatized painting," found an echo in what John Ryden said in "The Daily Express":

"There should be a great division of opinion about this painting. Many will consider it unworthy of an exhibition of this sort. Others will agree that it fittingly caps such a representative collection," Mr. Ryden said.

Hitler's Last

The painting shows Hitler, wild-eyed, standing over officers sprawling on a table with empty bottles on it. Hitler, clutching at his throat, apparently is about to take his last breath.

Pierre Jeanneret, in "The Daily Mail," recalled that Chagall had returned to the Soviet Union after the revolution and tried to settle there, but "Red rigidity hounded him out," the critic said.

Most of the critics found the display of centuries-old ikons the most interesting part.

Polish Abstracts Praised, Flayed by Russians

MOSCOW. — Poland's ideologically brash painters have taken over a major art exhibition here with a collection of abstract and other modern pictures that has Russian youngsters gasping and arguing.

Impassioned discussions arose today in the Manesh Gallery, with some Russian youngsters defending abstraction and others denouncing it.

Addressing a crowd surging around Adam Marchinski's "On the Island," a non-objective, Kandinsky-like work with patches of glowing colour, a young Russian told a middle-aged man: "You have to understand this with your feelings. I think it's great and the man who painted it was happy."

The older man retorted: "You alienate yourself from life," reflecting the official attitude here of condemnation of abstract art.

The works of Mr. Marchinski, of Jan Cybis and Xavier Dunikowski attracted the greatest number of disputants. In the Polish section, an old lady pointed to a Picasso-influenced painting and asked scornfully, "Who has any use for that sort of thing?"

"Maybe it's no use to you, but maybe it's some use for others," a young Russian answered. The Polish paintings, reflecting the influence of Matisse, Picasso, Leger, Kandinsky and Bracque, stood out in the midst of hundreds of examples of socialist realism.

Guest Book

Possibly the frankest reactions were expressed in the Polish guest book, in which visitors noted the following impressions:

"Lurid and ridiculous." "I just hope they will find no followers." "I don't understand one bit of it." "Thank you for the satisfaction you have given me." "I wish you all success for the future."

(N. Y. Herald Tribune)

RAZGOUR : Landscape (oils).

Razgour Back from France

FOR his first exhibition in Jerusalem since 1951, Yehudah Razgour has assembled a number of fine landscapes and still lifes at the Jerusalem Artists' House. Energetic, talented, he has steadily improved over the years and is now approaching full maturity. Most recently, he has tackled the problems closest to him, those of landscapes and composition, in Paris, in Brittany, in Poland and in southern France. The results always command respect and often admiration.

Born in Poland, Razgour carries within him the memory of a certain type of poetic Polish landscape, of green fields, medieval castles and narrow turfuous paths, which consistently finds its way into his work. Add to this French clarity of vision, and a good measure of Jewish enthusiasm, and you have the basic elements which make up his art.

The current exhibition includes 27 oils and 11 gouaches, as well as some drawings, and, despite occasional thematic repetitiousness, it has range and gives the impression of spaciousness. Some of Razgour's canvases still show the effect of certain influences — Cézanne and Picasso, as well as the austere and "hungry" still-life of postwar Paris whose best known exponent is Bernard Buffet. Elsewhere, Razgour is plainly himself, enjoying both the natural beauty of certain Breton or southern French landscapes and the formal problems raised by their depiction.

In his most recent work, a certain type of vertical structural pattern recurs frequently. Pyramidal in essence yet broken up in climbing and overlapping triangles, it is the most characteristic of his compositions. Joined here in their ultimate synthesis, we again find the basic elements of his art: the legendary Polish landscape, the clarity of the French eye, and Jewish warmth and idealism with all its richness of atmosphere.

M.L. MENDELSON

Superb Ceramics at Bezalel

THE Bezalel National Museum in Jerusalem is at present showing a superb collection of ceramics by Gertrud and Otto Natzler, a visiting American couple who first gained recognition in Europe. Born in Vienna, they worked there until the Anschluss. They are evidently an ideal husband-and-wife team, she throwing the pots by hand, he producing his own original glazes. The result is the very finest in pottery.

The deceptive simplicity of the design is actually the result of the most complicated calculation. Most of the pottery is classic in form but the original element is the startling relationship of the body of the vase to the neck and head (see picture on page III).

The two other elements are colour and texture. Natzler, using a secret controlled reduction method, has produced some of the most beautiful reds and mauves (this is the nearest I can get to a description of his subtle colours). The textures are of extraordinary variety. Finally, there is the drawing, or rather painting, of glaze within glaze that forms a design that fits the shape of the bowl, indefinite or abstract forms that suggest a feeling of space within space, exploding universes, circling planets. Yet these works are of a tranquil beauty rarely seen. Little wonder they have taken top awards around the world.

The exhibition is extremely well laid out, the groups of vases and bowls making exquisite patterns within the frames of the showcases.

MEIR RONNEN

Krewer Shows Oils, Watercolours at Hazorea

A. P. Krewer came to Israel less than two years ago, most of her oils, watercolours and drawings now on exhibition at Wilfrid Israel House, Hazorea, were executed abroad. At first sight, the eye is struck by a technical brilliance and a competent absorption of Post-Impressionist methods. "Absorb" is the correct word, not only on account of specific Van Gogh and Gauguin elements but also because Cézanne's ultimate Cubism does not develop naturally form the other two painters. Other influences in the drawings and portraits seem to have been chosen to accord with the subject and the whole looks like very talented aptitude.

Israel Catharsis

The artist's three Israel oils reveal signs of a beneficial catharsis at work. Through lack of suitable models as in her European and American pictures, she is falling back on her basic knowledge of painting. "Acre" presents an almost mathematical composition in a green which conveys the dreaminess of a fairy city. The remaining two employ realist colouring. "Tiberias" is built in the three planes of hills, buildings and water. "Safad" and Lake of Galilee" breaks up into slightly Cubist areas strongly reinforced by the functions of lake and road. Of four small colour sketches, "Hula" and "Safad" should certainly be enlarged into oils, for they contain an easy flow absent from the three completed paintings.

If Krewer can convert her academic apparatus into a definite technique backed by her personal approach to a theme, she should succeed in adapting herself very well to the artistic potential of her new milieu.

H.

I.P.O. Will Costume Falstaff

ELIZABETHAN costumes and stage settings will make their first appearance on the stage of the Mann Auditorium next month, with the IPO's full-scale opera presentation of Verdi's "Falstaff," Mr. Uri Toeplitz of the Orchestra's management told *The Jerusalem Post*.

The costumes and props are being brought here from the International Music Festival in Holland, where both conductor Carlo Maria Giulini and producer Franco Zefferelli participated. Mr. Zefferelli has already visited Tel Aviv and designed a special decor for the impromptu opera stage of the Auditorium. Even the minor parts will be sung by Opera stars, specially invited by Giulini. Ten singers who have all made their names with La Scala or the New York Metropolitan will appear here.

The local choir — 35 members of Rinat in matching costume — will participate in the acting, singing in Italian. Only the orchestra has been relegated to the "pit" that was installed during the summer recess. The stage of the auditorium can now be adjusted for opera or symphonic works by lowering part of the podium.

"Falstaff" will be the most costly IPO production to date. Last year the Orchestra hesitated about putting on the concert version of the opera: today it is convinced that the result will justify the expenditure.

Verdi Popular

Altogether, Verdi emerges as the most popular composer of this IPO season: his "Requiem" is already scoring a brilliant success, and a concert version of his "Masked Ball" will be presented next summer under the baton of Dimitri Metropoulos.

Music lovers here have been most satisfied that the singing of the "Requiem" is all in the original Latin, with the Tel Aviv Chamber Choir singing in the same language as the soloists. Four years ago, the choir sang in Hebrew.

MIRIAM DAYAN

'Black Sabbath' Ineffective

Ohel presents "Black Sabbath" by Yigal Mossinsohn. Direction: Beev Barshan; decor: Mosya Lasger.

YIGAL Mossinsohn is gradually being metamorphosed into our own homegrown Noel Coward. He has written a number of plays (some of them very successful), he has directed one of his plays (with no worse results than some of our other directors) and now he has acted in his own play. As an actor he is at least as good and at times better than some of the other Ohelites. Lest anyone get the impression that we are damning Mr. Mossinsohn with faint praise, he actually gave a creditable, if monotonous, performance in "Black Sabbath" at the Ohel.

Many modern novels carry a small item at the beginning of the book to the effect that any resemblance to actual people is purely accidental. Mr. Mossinsohn might have prefixed his new play with a statement that not only any resemblance to real people, but also resemblance to a real play, is purely accidental. One has the impression that everything in "Black Sabbath" is absolutely true, and if it did not happen, it certainly might have, to Raphael Hoover and his fellow kibbutzniks in the final years of the British Mandate in Palestine.

However, the fact that the story is packed with incident after incident does not seem to add up to drama, though each separate occurrence might have been developed into a full-scale play. There are two shootings on stage; the conception and subsequent birth of a baby (off stage); the breaking up of a few happy marriages; the arrest of all of the males in the kibbutz; the arrest and torture of our hero (who does not break under the ordeal); the final happy ending when he smiles for the first time. All of this happens, but it seems to make absolutely no impression either upon the people on the stage or those watching it on the other side of the foot-lights.

In a programme note, Mr. Mossinsohn claims that the events in the play are seen through the eyes of Raphael. If this is so, then Raphael is both myopic and insensitive. He seems completely unaware of anything but his own unimpressive domestic complications. Probably the author succeeded better than he thought he would, and the audience remains as unmoved as his hero by the various tragedies which take place around them.

In addition to Mr. Mossinsohn, those participating in the play include Yehuda Gabbai, Yael Ishay, Shaprira Zakai, Or Shamir, Dvira Kastelanet, Yehuda Shchori, Ya'akov Knani, Daniel Ben-Shlomo, Shlomo Paz and Shoshana Shoval.

The play was directed at a leisurely pace. The settings are very effective.

IDA B. DAVIDOWITZ

'Lost Exhibition' of M.E. Maps

By SHAYA SHAPIRO

GENEVA. — An unexhibited attraction of the Tenth Anniversary programme is stored in the drawers of Mr. Eran Laor's flat in upper Geneva. It is a collection of some 3,000 old maps, many of them related to the Middle East, which Mr. Laor has acquired patiently over the years. His oldest map of Palestine dates back to 1478.

A bachelor by conviction, a poet by inclination, Mr. Laor represents the Jewish Agency in this city, where so many international agencies have their offices. If a man is not married by the time he is 40, says Mr. Laor, he should choose a hobby; and ancient maps won out with him.

To be a good collector, he continues, you should not be rich. It is no fun to be able to walk into a shop and pay big money for what you want. You have to have cunning, to outwit the dealer, and patience, to wait until what you want comes around at a reasonable price. A specimen may be so fabulously good that you want it at all costs — but you will be ruined in no time if you yield to such temptations. Wait until you chance on a torn copy: you'll get it cheap enough. The odds are you will find the missing pages some day, cheap — if you are patient enough.

A good collector is a minor expert in his field. He must study books about old books, obtain catalogues of important sales of old prints to keep abreast of events. Some catalogues are elaborate publications, with facsimiles of the important documents; others are simply bargain lists whose value only the initiated understand.

One of Mr. Laor's most cherished possessions came to him from New York — via Jerusalem. A dealer in old books sent a catalogue to an Israel amateur who could not find his way in it and passed it on to Mr. Laor. Sensing a find, Laor asked for a photostat of the map, compared it with a genuine copy in a famous museum. The difference was that in the print on sale the type was upside down in some places. It turned out to be a proof of the map.

Browsing through old books is an armchair adventure. A folio entitled *Liber Chronicarum*, published in Nuremberg in 1493, starts from the beginning of world history — *in principio creavit Deus coelum et terram*.

It shows *Templum Solomoni* a perverted version of Haram a-Sharif, and a realistic drawing of Jews being burned on a bonfire in punishment for their stubbornness. The pictures were drawn by Meister Michael Wohlgemut, among whose students was a boy named Duerer. It is pleasant guesswork to try and find which of the drawings were actually done by him.

Oldest Map

The oldest map of Palestine was printed in a book by Lucas Brandis of Luebeck, called *Rudimentum Novitiorum*. It shows Jerusalem well in the middle of a fanciful Palestine. Next in time was the Ulm edition of Ptolemy's charts published in 1482. But four years later there appeared an account of an expedition to the Holy Land by Bernhard von Breydenbach which contained what were perhaps the first maps drawn from actual knowledge of the country.

One hundred and fifty of Mr. Laor's maps were to have been incorporated in a Tenth Anniversary Committee exhibition that did not come off. It was to include some 50 maps of the Holy Land, 18 of Jerusalem and 25 maps of the Middle East. There were also to be some curios, such as a map of Europe drawn in the shape of a woman holding a sceptre to which a flag in the shape of Britain was attached; and a map of Sinai published in Italy by a Greek map-maker.

Sinai Chart

The Sinai map, lettered in Greek, Latin and Russian, shows the Exodus, Pharaoh drowning in the sea — and a group of Arabs bringing bread to Santa Catarina. It also shows a Beduin aiming his bow at the monastery. Mr. Laor bought the map in Geneva from a woman who admitted she had coloured it herself. "Nobody would have enjoyed it without colours," she said.

LANDAU MEETING AT BE'ERI CLUB

FRIENDS of the Parisian-Jewish painter Zalman Landau met at the Be'eri Club, Jerusalem this week. Landau is a well-known figure among the Jewish artists of the "Ecole de Paris." He is now here for a long visit, and has just completed a successful exhibition of his work at the Bezalel Museum.

Mr. J. Lerner, who organized the gathering, stressed the human and aesthetic values of Landau's work.

Landau, speaking in Yiddish, evoked memories of art and artists in Montparnasse more than 30 years ago, and recounted his meetings with Soutine, Kisling and other great painters of the generation that flourished in the twenties.

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Ingrid Bergman
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so great together in
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Perfs.: 4, 7.15, 9.15
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ALEC GUINNESS
WILLIAM HOLDEN
The Bridge On The River Kwai
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Full of laughter and humour
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The Blue-Bell Girls of the Paris "LIDO" and the
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in a sex drama
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with
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The happy comedy of a soldier at war with the army
THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND

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In wonderful Colour
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ISRAEL PREMIERE

Radio Review

MUSIC FOR THE MIKE

"CURTAIN UP" this week gave us Oscar Wilde's "Salome," which might have been written for radio: it is straightforward dramatization of a gruesome episode, with overtures of sex and jealousy and there are basically only four characters: Herod, his wife, Salome and Yohanan the prophet from the desert. All that is needed to flavour such succulent fare is some atmosphere. On the stage, this can be done with lights, decor, makeup. On the air, all you have is voice, noises — and music.

The problems are many. Firstly when well-known actors are used, an obvious preference, the voice sometimes overwhelms the character. There was a time when one thought that every great figure in history looked like Paul Muni. Today, one might imagine that every king sounded like Yosef Yadin, who, by the way, did an excellent job of rendering Wilde's Herod. (Hannah Meron, while we are on this point, was not particularly effective as Salome, who in Wilde's play is a wilful, hysterical, demoniacal juvenile deliquent of a primitive princess — and not a soft spoken sophisticate). In a radio play therefore, it might be worth experimenting with any mechanical device that would purposely distort the timbre or pitch of a too familiar voice.

Unhelpful Efforts

In "Salome," the hard work put in by the actors was effectively blocked by the background music. The trick of using one particular and recognizable theme or sound effect behind each voice is a good idea, but requires more subtle treatment: some variation, and some connection, either in composition or method. Actually the play was disjointed by the music and the *coup de grace* was dealt to one of the dramatic climaxes when Salome's dance was rendered with something akin to Saint-Saens' "Samson and Delilah" theme (the one used as Kol Yisrael's Arabic programme call sign.) One expected something genuinely oriental, seductive, sensual; in this case the effect was ludicrous.

Which brings us to the point: why not give our young composers a chance to write background music more often for this series? Such compositions would serve the play as they do in the better films that employ the services of a composer. They would provide unity, character, and a welcome exercise for our young masters. Yes, we know, the budget... But not every play would require such treatment. Salome, however, is set on home ground and would have provided a good opportunity. Next week's Lorca play has music by Noam Shenrif, which will offer an interesting basis for comparison.

M.R.

ON THE AIR

FIRST PROGRAMME

202, 249, 31.7 & 41.7 M.

News Bulletins: 6.30, 7.00 and 7.55 a.m. 1.30, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00 and 11.00 p.m.

English: 3.00 p.m. French: 2.15 p.m.

TODAY

6.30 a.m. Religious Service (R). 6.37 Exercises. 7.27 Musical Clock (R). 8.00 Close Down.

11.00 a.m. Popular Concert: Suppe: Overture "Beautiful Galathea." Bizet: Symphony in C. Borodin: Polovtsian Dances. Mendelssohn: Overture "Ruy Blas." 12.00 Lunchtime Music: Sephardic Tunes. 1.00 Symphonic Dances. 1.45 Where to Go? 1.50 Light Music. 2.30 Close Down.

3.15 Programme for Youngsters. 3.30 Kabbalat Shabbat. 4.00 Youth Corner. 4.30 News in English, Swedish & Spanish. 5.05 Classical Request Programme: Rossini: Overture "La Gazza Ladra." Haydn: Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major. Strauss: "Graduation Ball." Ballet Music. 6.00 Literature Quiz by J. Malchin & S. Rosen. 6.25 Light Music. 7.30 Bible Reading. 7.50 The Week through the Eyes of the Writer. 7.40 Rim Ami. 8.00 "Portrait of an Artist." 8.45 Jascha Heifetz (Violin). 9.15 Friday Evening Concert: Mahul: Overture "Le Treuer Suppose" — played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. Mendelssohn: Piano Concerto No.1 in G-minor, op.25, played by Helmut Roloff, with Symphony Orchestra conducted by Fritz Lehman. Goldmark: "Rustic Wedding" (Symphon), op. 26 played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. 10.30 Folk Dances. 11.10 Close Down.

TOMORROW

7.30 a.m. Service & Morning Melodies. 8.47 Sabbath Morning Concert: Vaughan-Williams: Oboe Concerto (Soloist: Mitch Miller) Andre-Campra: Psalm. Harold Shapero: "Credo" for Orchestra (Cond.: Robert Whitney). 9.45 Light Music. 10.00 Musical Quiz. 10.30 Literary Corner. 11.00 Popular Concert: Khatchaturian: "Gayneh." Ballet Music. 11.30 "Curtain Up." 12.30 Requests. 1.00 Stage and Screen. 1.45 Chamber Music: "Duos Duo to Octet" (Programme No. 3). Mozart: in E-flat-major, K. 498. Bach: Quintet in D-major, played by M. Tel-Oren (Flute); G. Klaus (Oboe); D. Lein-Hen (Violin); G. Rosbr (Viola); Y. Hasberger (Cello); A. Sacha (Cembalo); F. Feling (Piano) and J. Ettlinger (Clarinet). 2.45 Songs. 7.15 Guests in the Studio. 7.30 Melaveh Malka. 8.00 Quiz by S. Rosen. 8.30 "Pleasantly Young" — a Variety Programme. 8.50 Bible Reading: Yeshayahu, chap. 67 & 68. 9.10 Sport. 9.15 "Our Political Front." 9.25 Light Music. 9.35 Concert by the Kol Yisrael Orchestra: Nissim Nissimov: "Aladin" (Conductor: A. Zamarash). Menahem Avidom: Folk Symphony (Conductor: H. Freudenthal). 10.30 Music for Dancing and Folk Dances. 12.00 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME

422, 468, 202.7, 41.7 & 32.5 M.

IMMIGRANTS' HOUR: Today: 7.00 French. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Hebrew-Lading lesson. 8.15 News in Easy Hebrew. 8.30 Ladino. 9.00 Rumanian. 9.15 Hungarian. 9.30 Polish. 9.45 News in English.

Tomorrow: 6.00 Light Classical Music. 6.30 Music from Movies. 7.30 French. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Yemenite. 8.15 News in Easy Hebrew. 8.30 Ladino. 9.00 Rumanian. 9.15 Hungarian. 9.30 Polish. 9.45 News in English.

ARABIC PROGRAMME

497 & 41.67 M.

Arabic Programme (including News): Today & Tomorrow: 6.30-7.15 a.m. 7.15-7.15 and 5.30-11.15 p.m. Persian: 8.15 p.m.

KOL ZION LAGOLA (32.2 M.): Programme to South Africa: Today: 6.30 News. 6.40 In the Jewish World. 6.45 Sabbath Programme. Tomorrow: 6.30 News. 6.40 "Editorial Opinion." 6.50 Melaveh Malkah.

Programme to the U.S.: Today: 10.15 News. 10.25 In the Jewish World. 10.30 Sabbath Programme. Tomorrow: 10.15 News. 10.25 "Editorial Opinion." 10.35 Melaveh Malkah.

ARMY PROGRAMME (43.4, 216, 235 & 328 M.): **Today:** 6.30 Opening. 6.33 "Greeting the Shabbat." 7.00 News. 7.15 "Pleasant Tunes." 7.30 The Week in Israel and in the World. 7.40 Songs by M. Ben-Shemer. 8.00 Friday Night Concert: Works by Handel & Schumann. 9.00 News. 9.15 "Military Mail 1005." 10.00 Dance Music. **Tomorrow:** 6.30 Opening. 6.33 Request Programme. 7.00 News. 7.15 "Star of the Evening." 7.30 "Musical Pot - Pourri." 8.00 Musical Miniatures. 8.30 "The Night Following Shabbat." 9.00 News. 9.15 Dance Music. 10.30 Close Down.

B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCASTS (19.66, 16.86, 13.93, 13.82). 7.15-7.15 p.m. **Today:** News, British Album. **Tomorrow:** News. News Talk. Students from Israel. Review of the Weekly British Press.

MUSIC U.S.A. (19 & 25 M.): Voice of America: **Today** and **Tomorrow:** 9.00-11.00 p.m. Light Music and Jazz.

CYPRUS BROADCASTING SERVICE — English Programme (434 & 495 M.): **Today:** 7.30 a.m. News. 12.30 p.m. Midday Melodies. 2.15 News. 4.30 "For Children." Light Music. 7.00 News. 7.15 Victorian Ballads sung by Dennis Noble. 10.00 "The Zimmerman Telegram." 10.30 Edmundo Ros & his Orchestra. 11.00 News. **Tomorrow:** 7.30 a.m. News. 12.30 p.m. The Billy Cotton Band Show. 2.15 News. 4.30 "Simon & Laura." 7.00 News. 7.10 Grand Session with David Frost. 10.00 Saturday Night Theatre. 10.30 Dance Music. 11.00 News.

PICK OF NEXT WEEK'S LISTENING: "Round table" (Sunday at 8.00). I.P.O. plays Lustig, Mendelssohn, conducted by Martinon (Sun. at 9.30). "Curtain Up" presents Lorca's Mariana Pentita with Hannah Rovina (Mon. at 9.30). "The Citizen Wants to Know" (Tues. at 7.35). Kol Yisrael Orchestra plays Dvorak violin concerto with Arieh Sadeh as soloist, also Eliat, Schubert, Kodaly (Tuesday at 8.00). "The Skies" — a tribute to Irving Berlin (Wed. at 9.30). "Face to Face" edited by Peter Frye (Thurs. at 9.30). "Concert Time" — works by Respighi, Prokofiev, Schumann (Fri. at 9.15), Second part of Donizetti's "Daughter of the Regiment" conducted by Mario Rossi (Sat. at 4.30).

Economic News from Abroad

Rostock v. Hamburg

● Rostock, East Germany's chief Baltic port, is to be developed to accommodate an annual 16m. tons, more than double its present capacity. The new port entrance is to be made navigable for vessels of 20,000 and more tons, docking facilities are to be expanded so as to serve 25 vessels at the same time, and an oil port is to be built for handling 6m. tons of fuel. This project is viewed with great concern in West Germany, as Rostock is also to be connected by a canal to the Elbe river and to the East Germany canal system which extends to the east and is to include a link to the Danube as well. When this waterway is completed in 1965, East German and Czecho-Slovak traffic will be able to by-pass Hamburg and other western ports.

Soviet Loan to Argentine

● Latin America's current economic difficulties, which have strained its relations with the U.S., are apparently to be used by Russia as an appropriate occasion for economic expansion in a new direction. Argentine recently got a $100m. loan for purchasing Russian oil equipment at particularly favourable terms, and similar loans have been offered to other Latin-American countries. Brazil has also been approached with a suggestion that Soviet equipment and technicians help implement its ambitious industrialization plans. The offer comes at a moment when inflation is proceeding apace and its government has been forced to freeze prices of basic foods, and cut next year's development projects.

Polish Coal Up

● While Western Europe's coal industry has been hit by a severe crisis — marginal mines closing down and prices plummeting in view of the heavy surplus — the expansion of the Polish coal industry continues. The 1958 output, somewhat higher than in 1957, could hardly meet growing requirements. One-sixth of the 102m. tons mined have been allocated for export, against one-third in former years, as Poland's own coal consumption has increased in the wake of advancing industrialisation and higher factory production. Though absenteeism in the mines has considerably eased, there still is a shortage of qualified underground workers, putting a brake on expanding output. However, the target for 1965 has been set at 112m. tons of hard coal and 27m. of brown coal, and part of the additional supply is to be exported. At present, half of all Polish coal exports go to Western Europe, and that market is to be given preference.

British Railways in Red

● The British railways, facing a loss of £85m. (i.e. £20m. more than last year) this year despite intensive efforts to economise, have been forced to ask the Government for additional funds. The £250m. which had been advanced to finance railway deficits will be exhausted sometime in 1959, instead of lasting until the end of 1962, target date for completion of the current modernization programme. Moreover, doubts are being voiced concerning the railways' ability to come out of the red even after that date, in view of the ever increasing competition of road traffic, which is bound to grow in the wake of the current programme for building additional trunk roads. Some of the unremunerative railway branch lines will presumably be closed before long, but some will have to be maintained for social reasons, including many suburban passenger services, and the railway subsidy is going to become a regular feature of the Government budget.

THE JERUSALEM POST

Friday, January 9, 1959

EILAT PORT HOLDS FORT

Initiative, Willingness, Meet Loading Schedules

By MEIR BEN-DOV

EILAT harbour had reason to celebrate the New Year at a mass affair last Friday. The past few weeks saw its most active and most successful period: out of a total of 100,000 tons of dry cargo which passed through the port in the two years since it was opened up after the Sinai campaign, almost 11,000 were handled in December 1958. Storage sheds and stacking areas were piled high with incoming and outgoing shipments; night and day, men and machines heaved, pulled, pushed and loaded oil seeds, copra, hides, coffee, lentils, beans, plywood, chemicals and sulphur.

The most important was sulphur — Eilat's first experience with bulk cargoes. Efficiently organized by the port's own staff 2,200 tons of it were unloaded by grab buckets on mobile cranes from the holds of the m.v. Selvik straight into lorries that took it to the sulphuric acid plant of the Timna copper works. The task was completed without a hitch in just over five days — well under the time allowed for in the ship's charter — earning unstinted praise from the master, Capt. Erne Lund, and the agents, Aaron Rosenfeld.

At the time of writing, 800 tons of Makhtesh Ramon gypsum are being loaded on the Atlit for Kenya, the first shipment of scores of thousands of tons to be exported annually, it is hoped. Dumped on the port's tarmac from 30-ton lorries, the gypsum is shovelled by specially fork-lift tractors into small skips which are wheeled to the ship's side and lifted by cranes straight into the hold. The method, like the skips, was created in Eilat and will deal efficiently with outgoing bulk cargoes until the more ambitious bulk handling equipment is installed in the more distant future.

174 Ships

One hundred and seventy-four ships of all types have called at Eilat in the past 26 months, of which 105 put in during 1958 alone. So far the port fees, totalling over IL1.25m., more than cover the running expenses and wage bills, although the cargo handling fees are identical with those at Haifa, while the men get the customary Arava bonus over and above Haifa rates of pay and all benefits. The Government also benefits from customs fees: IL1,240,000 in 1958 alone for dry cargoes, and the Post Office saves considerable sums by sending Africa- and Asia-bound sea mails through Eilat.

Part of Eilat's remarkable success in being able to compete with much older ports can be attributed to the fact that it is not hampered by outdated machinery or labour attitudes: the machinery, though small (the biggest crane is nine tons), is just adequate and is maintained in first-class condition; the staff — 90 permanent employees and 60 workers who are on call — are as enthusiastic about the port as the management and have fortunately shown a disinclination for restrictive practices.

Amongst the special problems that face Eilat's harbour manager, Danny Mitzafon, is transport. The relatively small harbour area and the long distance from the harbour's main customers figuratively extend the port gates northwards to Israel's main industrial centres for accepting and delivering cargoes to dockside and warehouses. This makes the harbour responsible for the transport of the bulk of the goods and for calling lorries forward on schedules so as to ensure smooth working. To ease matters, a "branch office" has been set up in Jaffa, Eilat's "northern gate." There, information relayed by radio from Eilat is passed to importers and exporters, and there they may also make payment.

Pier Extended

Two million pounds have been spent in the present stage of Eilat's harbour development on mobile equipment, warehouses, asphalting the area, building lighter wharves, offices and workshops. A large tug is being built at Hayama; the pier is being extended by another 100 metres so that one 7,000-ton ship and one 2,500-tonner can be unloaded simultaneously. This is of great importance since bulk cargoes for the Far East can be economically carried only in the larger vessels.

More warehouses are also being built, including one to be air-conditioned for goods that might be spoiled in Eilat's hot, dry summer. (A case in point is hides, which lose an average of 18 per cent in weight by drying out.)

Master Plan

Further development will be in accordance with the master plan for the harbour, which has just been officially approved. The harbour will be split up into three main zones, the southernmost for crude oil, further north a bulk handling zone with appropriate equipment and warehouses, and between there and the present port the zone for general dry cargoes. This year's tonnage, it is confidently forecast, will be 40 per cent above the 1958 figure, with new ships, new cargoes and new destinations. The Else Nielsen, which sailed last week for the first time for Persian ports, was loaded to capacity and had to leave behind some of her consignment of Cargal cartons for her next trip.

NORWEGIANS ATTEMPT TO KEEP OUT ZIM

By PAUL LEWINSON
General Traffic Manager, ZIM

THERE is almost no international shipping conference where a representative of Norwegian shipping does not protest against the principle of 50-per-cent participation of the National Flag in the trade between any given two countries. This is not the place to discuss the merits of the principle, which the Americans introduced about ten years ago and which has lately been accepted in a number of trade agreements. It is, however, obvious that it cannot be reconciled with reserving a full 100 per cent of the Israel-Norway trade for the Norwegian flag.

When, some years ago, the Zim Israel Navigation company agreed in a contract with the Fred Olsen Line's Mediterranean Service (Norske Middelhavslinje Linie) not to call at Norwegian ports, Zim's fleet was too small to assure regular and reliable service to such distant destinations. However, when the contract ended last August 31, Zim, which had grown in the meantime, felt able and obliged to extend its activities to Norway.

The N.M.L. was given ample notice that the contract would not be renewed on the same terms, and a Zim representative was sent to Oslo to negotiate the entry of the Israel line into the trade between the two countries on the basis of a friendly understanding. However, the Fred Olsen Line flatly refused, and Zim began to call at Norwegian ports without its agreement.

The Norwegian shipping men then tried to prevent Zim from getting cargo to and from Norway. The country's Citrus Importers' Association refused to have a single case of oranges carried on an Israel ship although Zim was prepared to grant considerable rate reductions. Since the Norwegians buy only FOB, the final decision rested with them. When it came to carrying Norwegian exports to Israel, however, and the Norwegian sellers tried to sell the goods on a C.I.F. basis, thus reserving this traffic too for their own flag, the Israel authorities refused, ruling that the Israel importers should decide how and with whom to have the goods sent.

Citing an old agreement between the Levant Conference and Scandinavian Lines, N.M.L. also asked the Conference to forbid the Israel line to call at Norwegian ports. The Conference, however, under its Danish chairman, refused to intervene, leaving the issue to be decided by the interested parties.

Wide publicity has lately been given in the Norwegian press to Zim's attempt to break the Norwegian monopoly, but not all the statements made in this connection are correct. One paper wrote that N.M.L. had maintained an established regular service to Israel for years, while in fact N.M.L. sailings, while fairly frequent during the citrus season, have been most irregular outside of it. Between April 1 and December 1, 1958 there were only five; in April, June and November there were no sailings at all and Israel importers had to wait two months to have their goods shipped. This is one obvious gap that could be filled by Zim.

Rates Covered

Monopolies are never a good thing and, contrary to statements in the Norwegian press, the present competition has already brought rates down. In a number of cases the Israel importers pay up to 50 per cent less, and fertilizer has gone down from $17 to $7 a ton, not to mention that with Zim the payment is in Israel currency.

Israel exporters would also profit from having citrus carried aboard Zim vessels, which are prepared to carry oranges for 25 per cent less than N.M.L. Those who are interested in the marketing of Israel citrus may well ask why this 25 per cent is currently being wasted.

Israel shipping will gladly accept the principles of freedom of trade and non-discrimination that have so often been emphasized of late in the Norwegian Press, and it would be very grateful if this unfortunate conflict could be brought to a close as soon as possible.

The Great Chinese Food Puzzle

Organized into communes these Peking work together, and are seen on a festival day.

(Chinese from the outskirts of eating a communal meal

Heinkon Photos.

By ROBERT FRANKLIN

HONG KONG (OFNS). — PEKING'S claims of superabundant food production in 1958 would appear to have been contradicted by the new announcement that in North China the wheat flour ration — the staple food of that region — has been reduced and cabbage put on ration for the first time. Now Northerners will be permitted to draw only 20 per cent of their basic food ration in flour, against 34 per cent in the past, while each person will be limited to three and a half kilos of cabbage, the principal vegetable of North China.

There is no indication that there has been any compensating increase in other foods. Indeed, reports from Peking state that it is now almost impossible to find millet or maize flour in the capital's markets. The ration of fats remains fixed at half a kilo a month for a heavy worker while the meat allocation stays at 300 grams a month per person.

Unreal Claim

Peking already has announced that 1958 food production would exceed 308 million tons, a startling increase of 100 per cent over 1957. Yet most outside analysts state flatly that this claim is quite unreal, pointing out that although the weather certainly was more favourable than usual, very little chemical fertilizer was available, and that vast numbers of farmers were drawn away from their fields to participate in the pell-mell drive to produce pig-iron from hundreds of thousands of home-built furnaces.

The transportation of this crude iron to distant smelting plants is known to have clogged the railways to the point of disruption, which may account in some degree for the present food shortage.

On the other hand, foreigners who have toured the Chinese countryside in recent months, have stated upon their arrival in Hong Kong that nowhere did they see large stores of food such as would have been expected from the bumper harvests claimed.

Agricultural experts with some knowledge of China generally agree that a 10 per cent increase over the 1957 production would have been a creditable achievement, while one or two feel it may have gone as high as 20 per cent. Even if Peking has done as well as is claimed, they ask, where has all the food gone?

Stocks and Commodities

Tel Aviv Market Continues Firm

THE first week of the new year was firm throughout on the Tel Aviv stock market. Dollar-linked and Sterling-linked bonds were in constant demand, while some industrials were also supported. The recently issued Series Five of the Housing Loan was quickly absorbed and now, with no new flotations in the offing in the immediate future, any material renewed growth should strengthen the market even further.

Palestine Electric second preferred advanced by 12 points during the week, and Dead Sea debentures by 15 points. The market remains very narrow in these two securities.

Trust Dollar Shares appreciated 100 per cent and encashed this price several times during the week. It is still premature to say whether the ordinary shares are beginning to benefit from the general tendency of the market, but prices of such securities as Ata, Kavlanesh, Afrika-Palestina, Assia and Shalhav have advanced by two or three points in the past week.

For the first time in many months, there was a revival in the oil shares, with Jordan Exploration advancing by four points, Naphta being quoted at around a 500 per cent and the T.O.P. at around IL8.- after IL2.500.

New York at New Peaks

AFTER initial hesitation, New York markets moved further up to new all-time highs. Later movement became irregular with consolidation influences apparent. Despite this trend and profit taking, the Dow Jones average for 30 Industrials moved on January 6 to $601.27 as against $581.60 a week earlier and 30 Rails stood at 161.28 as against 156.68.

Gilt-Edged In Demand in London

THE attention of the London market was centred around the Gilt-Edged section on continuous investment buying. Industrials reacted after last week's advance on profit taking.

Reuter's Daily Index for Gilt-Edged was 76.3 as against 75.2 a week earlier and for Industrials 294.6 as against 288.9.

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Tetra-Sodium Pyrophosphate Produced

A FURTHER industrial chemical, tetra-sodium pyrophosphate (TSPP), used mainly for textile finishing, water softening and as a raw material for detergents, is now being manufactured by Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.

TSPP, which is supplied in solid form, is an alternative to tri-sodium polyphosphate (STP), which serves similar purposes and has been produced by Fertilizers and Chemicals for some time. Both products conform to international standards and 60 per cent of the annual output of 6,000 tons are earmarked for export. Market requirements will determine the proportion in which the two chemicals will be produced.

The plant, which can be used alternatively for the production of STP and TSPP, was designed and erected by the Company's engineering staff.

Rassco Issues Reticent Report

By Our Economic Editor

THAT venerable institution of mature capitalist countries, the Chairman's speech at a company's general meeting by means of which business leaders give the public their opinion about current economic trends and policies, has not yet taken its appropriate place in Israel's business community, and most concerns, both private and public, confine their annual statements to pertinent data and some generalities.

We are thus deprived of much valuable comment and advice which, if handled in a responsible manner, could present the public (and the authorities as well) with a corrected version of many a chapter that is now left to the exclusive interpretation of bureaucrats and party spokesmen.

Two Factors

A case in point is the annual Rassco report, which usually passes almost unnoticed because the public is not duly taken into confidence as regards the company's plans and worries, nor is it invited to partake of the economic outlook from the vantage point of such a big and ramified enterprise. However, the last report contains the interesting remark that "of late some difficulties have been encountered in the company's settlement activity due to two factors:

"a) the water problem has become of basic national importance, and since political obstacles have made the full development of the country's water resources impossible, further expansion of agricultural settlement is likely to meet with serious difficulties;

"b) the urgent need to absorb immigration, recent and previous, has led to considerable cuts in budget allocations for establishment of new settlements.

"The latter point has been given special attention by the company's board of directors, which has taken up the issue with the Jewish Agency Executive in order to ensure continuing activity in the field of agricultural settlement of middle class immigrants." As a matter of fact, the company has already been forced to soft-pedal several groups of would-be immigrants from Latin America because long-term loans that were to have come from the Development Budget failed to materialize, and the cut has not been restored in the 1958/60 estimates.

Since the company preferred to argue its case in camera, full details are not available about what went on between it and Mr. Eshkol in his capacity as head of the Agency's Settlement Department. But it is certainly a pity that no possibility has been found to speed up the immigration and settlement of people who can finance part of the investment with their own capital and at the same time bring with them skills and initiative, both in short supply in most of the rural settlements.

Other points about which the report is reticent include Rassco's plans for developing small industrial projects as subsidiary or alternative sources income in rural settlements (apparently because progress has been slower than originally expected), and the new negotiations that will permit Rassco to take over one or more hill settlements in order to develop them along new lines. Needless to say, both these ventures are of topical interest in view of reappraisal of agricultural patterns and settlement methods. Rassco's prolonged and successful experience in establishing stable rural communities would certainly justify an original contribution on its part to the current debate.

Public Buildings

The company's urban building activity continues at an annual volume of 1,500 dwelling units (i.e. somewhat less than in the previous year). Suburbs have been developed in Tel Aviv (Ramat Chen) and Haifa (Kiryat Motzkin and the French Carmel); a new quarter (Ir Ganim) has been started in Jerusalem; and large schemes have been put up in Beersheba, Nahariya and Petach Tikva. A novel start is being made in Tel Aviv with the erection of a luxury ten-story apartment house in which most of the flats are being sold to investors abroad. In addition, Rassco has been acting as a building contractor for a number of large public buildings including part of the Hebrew University Campus, the Hebrew Academy, industrial and educational buildings etc. Its various financing, industrial and commercial subsidiaries have continued to expand quite vigorously.

The company's balance sheet (for end of March last) may be outdated, but it shows some significant trends. Investments in "land, development and housing projects" again advanced (from IL8.6m. to IL8.3m.) while building material stocks continued to decline (to less than four per cent of aggregate assets as compared with 13 per cent in 1954) as a result of decontrol and plentiful supply.

Fixed investments again increased by almost a fifth (to IL2.7m., i.e. more than double the amount of four years before), but the most spectacular rise was in debts owed by settlers and builders (from IL8.4m. to IL10.6m.), while the debts of subsidiary companies contracted and liquid means decreased.

On the liabilities side, however, this rise in current assets was paralleled by an equal rise in short-term financing, largely by banks, (bringing up total current liabilities from IL8.8m. to IL10.7m.), plus IL0.3m. added pre-payments on contracts to be executed, while share capital and reserves and long-term loans and debentures rose by a total of IL0.99m.

Lack of Means

Thus the growth of the Rassco's own means has failed to keep pace with the expansion of its activities, and part of the added investments had to be financed by short-term funds. The financial strain imposed upon the company by its rapid expansion is also shown by the fact that its net interest expenditure doubled from IL0.47m. in the previous year to IL0.88m. It is remarkable that the ratio of net to gross profit is steadily decreasing: in the report year it was 38 per cent against 18 per cent in the year ending March 1955.

This trend is, of course, in no way confined to Rassco alone, though in its case it may have been sharpened by the company's understandable tendency to keep profit margins low — in particular for rural settlements — in accordance with its status as a subsidiary of the Jewish Agency and an instrument of Zionist policy. One may, however, doubt whether the results are fully satisfactory from a wider economic aspect.

Water Waste Regardless

By Our Economic Correspondent

IN a semi-arid country like ours, drought is a major catastrophe. In some places there are no crops at all, in others they are much below average. Livestock has to be slaughtered, springs run dry, rivers flow more slowly and wells are not replenished. A single drought calls for the readjustment of the entire economy if the damage it wreaks is to be repaired.

So far, however, only the farmers — and not even all of them — have had to adjust. Auxiliary irrigation has been undertaken wherever possible, cattle have already been slaughtered, the Government will consider compensation for crops that fail and the Ministry of Agriculture is discussing the import of foodstuffs; but the urban population remains secure in the knowledge that, drought or no drought, it will not starve — and it continues to waste water as freely as ever, in households and in gardens.

Leaking Pipes

So do many farmers who have irrigation facilities. Their lines and fixtures leak as frequently as before, irrigation is done in the daytime despite evaporation in the sunshine.

This complacency threatens our entire water economy, particularly since some of the damage — such as the salting of wells due to overconsumption — cannot be repaired when this catastrophic season is over.

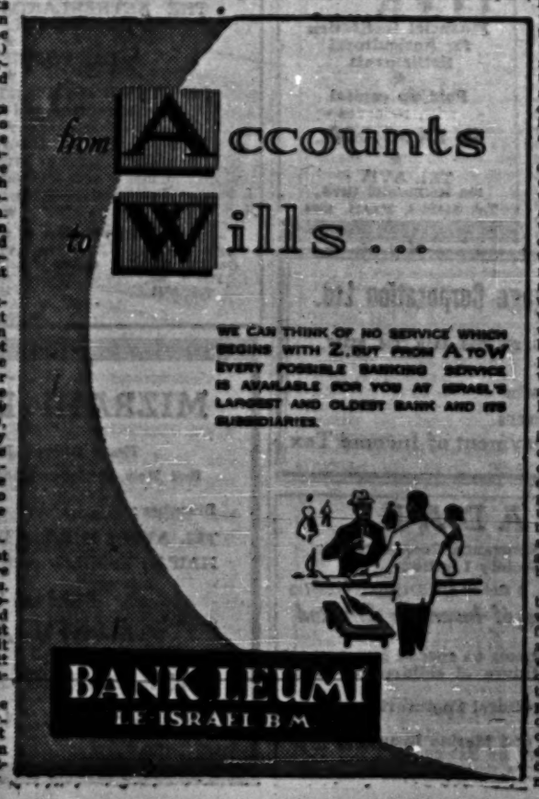
When it became known some time ago that our water resources were not as ample as we had been led to believe, it looked as if we would at long last adjust ourselves to the situation. The Knesset passed a water law; it was stressed that water meters should be introduced in every flat to cut down waste; it was acknowledged that when crops are planned, the water needs and supply of various districts must be taken into account.

Yet Tel Aviv goes on wasting water as if it were situated in a rainy area; in some parts of the Negev water is used to wash out saline soil; when overpumping threatened the entire Emek Hefer with salted wells, planners got around the problem by supplying water by pipeline from outside the district; and even the Ministry of Agriculture and the Jewish Agency go on with their plans for growing some particularly water-consuming crops.

Obviously this cannot go on. There are a thousand and one ways of saving water with which Israel old-timers are familiar from the days when there was no plumbing or tanks were filled once a week or less. There is no need to wash dishes under a stream of water; one can wash, shower and even bathe with much less water than we do; urban gardens can be planned in size and for plants that use much less water than we have become accustomed to by luxurious lawns abroad.

On top of this urban waste, imported from Western countries which know no droughts or shortages and quickly imparted to immigrants from the East who used to be fully aware of the value of water, come subsidies which make water available to farmers at prices bearing no relation to costs.

Realistic water rates, meters, crop planning geared to water costs and immigration facilities are as badly needed as the big irrigation schemes which are on the way. We can import food if we have the money; we cannot import water. And if we waste our resources the way we continue to do, even in a drought year, the time will come when even money will not help.



Investors Bank Shows Good Progress

A NOTED increase in both deposits and outstanding loans over the past two years is reported by the Palestine-British Bank Ltd., Tel Aviv (branches in London, Jerusalem, Haifa and Natanya). The firm specializes in credits to approved foreign industrial investments and in financing industrial exports.

Current deposit and fixed deposit accounts advanced from IL8m. by the end of 1956 to IL11m. at the end of 1957 and will amount to IL12.5m. this year. On the other hand, cash on hand and with banks will reach IL7.5m. by end of 1958, as against IL6m. in 1957 and IL4m. the year before. Loans outstanding advanced during the two-year period from IL4m. to IL8m.

In view of this expansion, the Bank's capital will be raised from IL800,000 (authorized) to IL 1,000,000. Paid-up shares amount to IL275,000. Main shareholders are British investors, represented by Mr. Walter N. Williams, chairman of the Bank's Board of Directors. He is also managing director of the London City and Midland Properties Ltd., London, and the National Insurance and Guarantee Corp. Ltd., London, both represented in Israel by the Bank.

The dividend distributed for 1956 and 1957 was five and six per cent respectively; a larger dividend can be expected for the year 1958, we are informed.

JUST APPEARED

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1959 — תשי"ט

Year Book of Israel Industry
(Hebrew)

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Europe's Finance Reforms: Israel Must Raise Competitive Ability

By D. Horowitz

Governor, Bank of Israel

HOROWITZ

IN economic as in other spheres, accepted notions and clichés tend to perpetuate themselves even if they are already devoid of content and become unwarranted by the realities of the situation. This applies to the concept of the "decline of Europe," which is supposed to be overshadowed by the economic giants — the United States and the Soviet Union — to the point where it no longer plays a significant part in shaping world economic trends.

However, Europe — exclusive of the Soviet Bloc — has a population of 240,000,000, more than either of the two giants, and accounts for 40 per cent of the world's trade. Moreover, the postwar period, and mainly the years 1950-57, witnessed an unprecedented revival of economic activity in western Europe, whose total industrial production actually increased between 1950 and 1957 at a very considerably higher rate than did production in the U.S. — 40 per cent as against only 25 per cent.

Striking Rise

It can be argued that the 1950 basis must have been rather low, as the process of reconstruction after the war had not yet been completed at that juncture. However, the figures for 1953-57 are just as striking. Industrial production in the U.S. increased in this period by seven per cent, while the increase in the various countries of Western Europe ranged from 13 to 40 per cent. Thus Europe lays claim to having become economically the world's third force, with all the political and military implications of such a development.

Division of Labour

However, it is evident to the economic leaders and statesmen of Europe that these developments can be made effective and accelerated only if they can avail themselves of the advantages of an international division of labour, of a large market which would confer on them the benefits of large-scale production and of the location of enterprises according to the relative advantages of production in the respective countries. This is the point of departure and the fundamental idea of the European Common Market, and to some extent of the looser association of the Free Trade Area.

The philosophy of this new economic policy determines its objectives and aims, which are multilateral trade and convertibility of currency. These should promote the international division of labour and confer on Western Europe the advantages of large-scale production and diversified markets. It is assumed that, under the regime of multilateral trade and convertibility, the utilisation of the various factors of production can be eliminated and distortions avoided in the structure of investment, prices and production.

Evidently, under bilateral trade agreements, such distortions are inevitable. Production is not concentrated in the location that is most advantageous from the economic point of view and the respective products are not manufactured in countries where such production is cheapest and most efficient. Barter, bilateral and triangular trade foster enterprise in agriculture and industry according to distorted patterns determined by bureaucratic calculations and political bargaining. This is particularly true of small countries, in which — owing to scarcity of resources — the coefficient of foreign trade within the whole economic activity is particularly high.

The new thinking tends to turn away from dreams of autarkic economic units and to emphasize international cooperation and the international exchange of goods.

These new developments in European thinking, which found their first expression in the European Coal and Steel Combine, Euratom, and new payment arrangements are of great importance to this country. First of all, our geographic proximity to Europe increases our sensitivity to economic developments there. Second, two-thirds of our exports are absorbed by the European market. Third, a country so small and with so few resources as ours is certainly dependent on international trade and cannot aspire to autarky. Its target must be to become self-supporting in the economic sense, but not self-sufficient in the physical sense.

The direct impact of the new financial developments will not be immediately and directly felt in Israel to any appreciable degree. Our exports to France make up only three per cent of our total exports. Moreover, competition on the French market will directly affect only goods produced in France's area. With regard to other commodities, Israel will be in the same position as other countries outside Europe. Financial losses ensuing from the new arrangements are negligible.

France's Move

However, the problem concerns long-range trends and tendencies on the European market, where artificial direction will be replaced by liberalisation and competitive ability.

France, which was out of line with international prices, has readjusted itself to the world price level and increased its competitive ability. It has adopted a policy of severe reconstruction and elimination of artificial props in the economy. Subsidies are being discontinued; the budget will be balanced. As the Minister of Finance said, he was using that "revolting" word, deficit, for the last time. Prices are being readjusted and France will become an equal and powerful partner in the new community of European nations.

On the whole of the European market, currency restrictions are dwindling into insignificance and thus the cheapest and best products will win the market in the long run. This will force Israel to reinforce her competitive ability, to adjust herself to world conditions and to put the emphasis in the future not only on investment and the physical expansion of production, but also on an increase in competitive ability. It is not enough any more to expand production capacity. It is no less important to shape the conditions of production in a manner which will enable us to penetrate into free markets.

The implications of such a development are obvious. Competitive ability and inflation are incompatible. The importance of productivity and cost will increase particularly since we are developing our production "in depth." Twenty-five years ago, Palestine did no more than tailor her clothes. Some years ago, she started weaving the cloth and in the last years before the Second World War, she started spinning the yarn. Today we are also producing the cotton, and the chain of production from cotton in the fields to the ready-made clothes in the shop increases the importance of cost and efficiency in the country itself as the important component of production decreases in weight and significance.

Must Export

Further, we have already exploited these branches of production that encounter favourable conditions in this country and are embarking on new ventures, in which the difficulties must be greater and our competitive ability marginal. In some of our commodities we have reached the limits of production for the home market, which is already saturated, and we have to export if further expansion is imperative, as it is.

Israel is not immediately concerned with Europe's new financial arrangements, but the problem grows in importance and significance if it is projected into the future on the basis of current trends which spell a free market, multilateral trade, convertibility and the decisive importance of competitive ability. These implications must be taken into account in planning the future expansion of Israel's agricultural and industrial production and in determining the pattern of its economic activity.

CHANTICLEER

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Stock Exchange Business Brisk

By SHALOM P. DOBON

NINETEEN fifty-eight went out on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange in a bullish mood. Business was brisk and the supply of stocks was short. Year-end considerations, dealings on "new account" and the fear of possible repercussions of the monetary reforms in Western Europe on the Israel Pound spurred demand and raised the prices of foreign currency-linked securities to all-time peaks.

Thus ended an active year for the Tel Aviv stock market. The adjoining table of some representative securities with their prices on December 31, 1957 as compared with December 31, 1958, will give a picture of the price movements during the past year:

The main features this table betrays for 1958 trading are:

● Continued interest in linked bonds, with preference shifting to dollar-linked securities. This development can partly be explained by disappointment with the Cost-of-Living index manipulations, which grew more obvious in the second half of 1958 with the exclusion of fruit and vegetable prices from the public index and the decision not to publish the full index. Another reason was fear of devaluation of the Israel Pound, which fear was strengthened by the introduction of a number of new rates of exchange for various foreign exchange incomes. This concern about the future of the Israel currency rose after the recent Western European monetary reforms and the devaluation of the French franc.

● A rise of some 30 points in the 4½% Palestine Electric second preferred and 5% Dead Sea debentures, two securities that are linked to foreign currency and at the same time give excellent yields. Here, however, the narrowness of the market may be at least partly responsible for such a sharp rise.

● Ordinary shares remained generally subdued and neglected, despite resumption of dividend payment, in some cases after two years.

SECURITY	31.12.57	31.12.58
2½% Tovel Dollar	89½	99½
6% Registered Sterling A Stock	204½	230
4½% Defence Loan Dollar-linked	89½	100½
—ditto C.o.L. Index-linked	89½	104½
—ditto Dollar-linked Premium Bonds	97½	89½
4½% Palestine Electric Second Preferred (London Register)	200	260
4½% Palestine Electric Bonds First Issue Dollar-linked	103½	107
C.o.L. Index-linked	111½	114
6½% Koors Haycored Dollar-linked	99	102½ buyers only
C.o.L. Index-linked	102½	105
6½% Izreth	99½	102
Bank Leumi A Ordinary Stock	150	159
Bank Leumi Investment Ordinary	206	209
Africa-Palestine Investment Ordinary	64	66
Israel Land Development Ordinary (Reg.)	81½	87½
Ata Textile Ordinary B	93	89½
Kardanah Textile Ordinary B	85½	85½
Koller Textile Ordinary	IL1.015	IL1.600
5½% Ladela Preference	84½	79½
6% Palestine Brewery Debentures	80	77
Assia & Bohemian Ordinary	75	64
6% Nesher Cement Debentures	113	117
Palestine Potash Ordinary (London Register)	82	82
5% Dead Sea Debentures	210	205
Tova Ordinary	86½	85
Palestine Coal Storage Ordinary (IL1... nom.)	121	130
(IL10... nom.)	120½	113
Delek Ordinary	87½	95
Jordan Exploration	70½	80

IL.70m. New Issues Absorbed

During 1958 the following securities were introduced to the official list:

Special Popular Loan 1964 (Kibve Amonai Meyuhad)	IL11,800,000
Housing Loan 6% and 6½% Dollar and Index-linked	IL23,000,000
Koors Haycored 6% Third Issue	IL 2,000,000
General Mortgage Bank 6½% Dollar-linked	IL 2,000,000
G.U.S.-Russco 6½% Dollar-linked	IL 1,000,000
Clifco (Zurich) 6% debentures	Sfrs.1,300,000

Any discussion of how these securities were absorbed must exclude the IL12,800,000 Special Popular Loan which has been held by its owners for years, as well as the Clifco debentures, which dealt in foreign currency only and particularly by owners of foreign currency accounts.

On the other hand, one should add three issues, all recently floated and fully absorbed although they will not be formally introduced for some weeks:

6% Local Authorities second Israeli Dollar and Index-linked	IL. 7,500,000
6% Bank Leumi Investment Dollar-linked	IL. 3,000,000
6% Israel Industrial Institutions Bonds Dollar and Index-linked	IL35,000,000

This makes over IL70m. worth of completely new securities absorbed in one year. Together the Housing Loan Saving Bonds held by restitution recipients and investors and also dealt on the "curb," as well as Housing Loan Premium Bonds and 1954 and 1955 Popular Premium Bonds, the capital market institutions embraced about IL335m. in securities at the end of 1958.

"The Secret" of Success

What were the reasons for this expansion of the capital market and the successful absorption of the new issues without any detrimental effects to the other securities? Objective and subjective grounds may be mentioned in this connection, including Israel's creeping inflation and the public's confidence that the Treasury and other bodies which issue linked bonds will stand by their linking undertakings in the long run. The dollar-linked bond has thus become a popular means of savings and investment. It appears that even those Israelis who believed until recently in hoarding gold or cash or lending cash at high interest are becoming more and more "security minded," particularly now that prices are advancing.

Recipients of restitution who have satisfied their main needs and improved their standard of living also constitute a source of demand.

Special mention should be made of the work of the Arnon Commission, which introduced a number of improvements. Consisting of high Government officials, and bankers, it directed the new flotations and timed them properly, watching over the absorptive capacity of the market and not opening the tap until the market was ready for it.

Market Potentialities

With Israel's expanding economy and capital needs, there is no reason why the stock market's potentialities should not develop further. Moreover, the reduction of the Development Budget, foreign aid and other allotments for investment and development will make it even more imperative for Israelis to divert their savings to the capital market. It will be up to the Government to find ways and means of attracting the Israel population to it. Of course, as long as there is an acute fear of devaluation there will be enough buyers for dollar-linked bonds. Perhaps, even the current immigration loan could have been disposed of easier if it had been floated on a commercial basis.

But even so, there is a limit to the absorption of the conventional type of linked bonds, especially for investors who possess all the types. It appears that an all-round reform in the ordinary shares section of the market is certainly due in 1959. The Government and industry would be well advised to take the necessary steps to revive this long-neglected field of our capital market.

Exports to World Over

ATA has received a substantial British order for shirting material and negotiations are proceeding for supply of a large quantity of velveteen. Ata exports to Australia, Africa and Scandinavia continue regular, but prices abroad do not cover costs, even when the export premium is taken into account, and the deficit must be offset by domestic earnings so that Ata's large-scale expansion has been shelved for the time being.

A second shipment of Carmel Oriental wines was sent to Gibraltar. Wines, liquors and cognacs have also been shipped to Belgium.

A Turkish citrus merchant has ordered a quarter-million Bruce boxes from the Ta'al company. They will be used for export to Britain.

A new order for 180,000 egg cartons has been placed with the Cargal Company by the Agricultural Export Company. The cartons will serve for packing 54m. of export eggs.

A first attempt to export Ytong building materials to Greece and Cyprus ended in failure, due to high transportation costs. Negotiations with would-be buyers had to be called off after the shipping companies quoted IL8-9 per cu.m. for this lightweight material.

Exports of Seven softboard to the U.S. reached a new peak of $83,000 in November 1958. The company has now embarked upon a programme for improving the softboard put out, and for utilization of a number of by-products. Negotiations are also going on for financing the plant's expansion programme.

Plastics' Progress

THE world output of plastics has risen from an estimated 1.5m. tons in 1950 to 3.6m. in 1957, and the steep upward trend is still continuing. However, while in 1950 the U.S. accounted for two-thirds of the world's plastics output, its share has dropped since to about 45 per cent. West Germany now takes the second place with 27 per cent, Britain comes next with 10.

Insurance Needs New Start

Place in National Economy Has Declined

By Our Economic Editor

STATISTICS inevitably lag behind events, and figures concerning insurance are always late, being based upon balance sheets which require complex computations and the completion of time-consuming procedures. The latest exact data available for Israel refer to the year 1956, and are to be found in a special publication of the Central Bureau of Statistics prefaced and analysed by Dr. J. Leron, the Superintendent of Insurance.

Since then the volume of business has doubtlessly increased, and some important new developments have taken place — such as new regulations concerning insurance investments and outstanding premiums, the introduction of linked life insurance, the increase in statutory paid-up capital amounts — but all this has hardly changed the general framework of the Israel insurance industry, and its basic trends.

There is, first of all, the large number of firms in the local insurance market: 21 Israel companies, 66 foreign ones and 13 Lloyd's brokers. Twenty firms operate in life insurance, 58 in marine insurance and 63 in the elementary business. The bulk of these firms — even those registered under the Israel law — are, of course, little more than local agencies of foreign insurers.

Time and again the question recurs whether some consolidation of business in several bigger units would not possibly result in lower overheads and commissions, in the wake of which insurance premiums could be reduced or some lines of service improved. Needless to say, the industry's spokesmen deny this, pointing out that — on the contrary — any curtailment of the present stiff competition would inevitably undermine the prevailing buyers' market in insurance, to the detriment of clients.

Foreign Commissions

However, an earnest inquiry has never been devoted to the question. As a matter of fact, the commissions of foreign companies are generally much higher than those of the local ones. For life insurance, for instance, the first-year commission ratio in 1956 was 28 per cent for the local companies and 64.5 per cent for the foreign ones; in motor vehicles insurance, the ratios were respectively 18.2 and 32.5 per cent. And it can hardly be doubted that the small volume of insurance written by each individual firm precludes a high rate of retention and thus slows up the development of an autonomous insurance industry in this country.

Naturally, the retention rate varies for the different insurance branches. It is highest in life, lowest in marine — with its heavy individual risks that should be spread over a greater volume of business — and with vehicles, fire etc. occupying an intermediary position. But a general trend to increase the retention rate is unmistakably evident in all branches of the Israel companies, due certainly to the major firms' progressive expansion. Thus the retention rate rose from 73.3 per cent in 1951 to 87.7 per cent in 1956 in life insurance from 31.5 to 40.7 per cent in fire and loss insurance, and from 9.3 to 39.5 per cent in miscellaneous. And these being averages, higher rates have been attained by the new major companies.

This reasoning has sometimes been countered by the cynical argument that, in the last resort, re-insurance pays and results in foreign firms' bearing the brunt of local losses. However, such an approach can hardly be conceived as a basis for long-term business relations, and indeed it is not borne out by facts.

Although there certainly have been cases of reinsurers ending with a loss to the benefit of local clients and agents (or companies), the country's aggregate balance sheet as regards insurance has been negative every single year. Even in 1955, when foreign insurers paid $1m. for the El Al plane shot down by the Bulgarians, there still remained a tail amount of $1.35m. to our debit. The average deficit balance for the six-year period 1951-1956 was over IL3.8m., of which IL0.55m. were accounted for by life insurance, IL0.8m. by marine and IL2.5m. by elementary insurance.

Evidently, if foreign insurers and reinsurers continue to enter for the Israel market — and go to great lengths to compete with each other — they do not consider local business a poor risk or too cheap to be remunerative. Obviously, also this sound approach provides a basis for the further expansion of the local insurers too, though a precondition for success in this respect is bigger size and higher efficiency, in order to reduce costs and thus get means free for competition and for the accumulation of reserves.

Better Risks

Significantly, the Israel companies' own funds (share capital and free reserves) have not been able to keep pace with the expansion of business in the period under review. Although they soared from IL2m. in 1951 to IL4.8m. in 1956, they dropped from 13.2 per cent to 12 per cent of all liabilities. The new regulations concerning minimum paid-up capital will have led to some improvement in this ratio, but increased capital formation remains one of the main levers for the industry's progress.

Fortunately the general loss ratio has of late been quite satisfactory in most branches. There has been considerable improvement in risks of burglary, pilferage and fire (though in this last branch some deterioration has taken place in the past few months, and insurers insist upon the need for increased precautions for plants, warehouses, etc., located far outside the major cities), and in vehicles insurance premiums have been repeatedly raised in order to cut losses. But income from investments is bound to be adversely affected by the insistence of the new regulations upon greater security and liquidity, and a bigger volume of capital would obviously help offset the loss.

The relative importance of Israel's insurance industry in our national economy has declined over the years. Though total premiums and fees rose 4.6 times from 1951 to 1956, their real value — measured at a constant c.o.l. index — rose only 56 per cent, i.e. much less than the real expansion of our assets and activities. This rise was only 11 per cent in life insurance, 40 per cent in marine, and 77 per cent in elementary insurance.

In relation to the total national income the aggregate amount decreased steadily from 1.93 per cent in 1951 to 1.37 per cent in 1956. The prolonged stagnation of life insurance, before the linked schemes were introduced, certainly accounted only partly for this phenomenon: as life premiums made up a quarter of the total premium volume in 1951 (and one-sixth in 1956), it evidently cannot have been the sole reason. A sound and dynamic insurance industry is an important prop of a healthy economy, and statistics — belated though they may be — make us realize that some heart-searching and new initiative will be required to help Israel insurance attain such a position.

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Reunion at Shfeyah

HOME FOR THE HOMELESS

By Ruth Rautenberg

A SMALL group of men and women gathered recently in the children's village of Meir Shfeyah, near Zichron Ya'acov, to reminisce and delight over how the village had changed since they were last there. This modest reunion, celebrated with little fanfare and hardly noted even by the present inhabitants of Shfeyah, commemorated the beginning of an era for Israel's oldest children's village.

It happened 20 years ago...

It was the fall of '38, and in Haifa's heavily policed port area, a young teacher from the children's village of Meir Shfeyah stood waiting to meet a ship. A few feet away, Miss Henrietta Szold was deep in conversation with several of her Youth Aliya associates.

The teacher smiled wryly. Henrietta Szold had certainly managed to change Shfeyah! Only a few months had passed since her two visits to the village — difficult, stormy, soul-searching visits for the Shfeyah staff. Shfeyah was the first children's village in the country. For 14 years it had been learning to handle the problems of Palestinian children from broken homes—and the staff had developed a certain pride in this "specialization."

Save the Children

But Miss Szold had been persuasive. And in addition to her description of conditions in Europe (how far away Europe was from their secluded village!) and of the lack of suitable facilities in Palestine, there was another compelling factor. He and several of his colleagues had family and friends in Rumamania. For months they had been barraged with letters, with pleas to help save "at least the children." So Miss Szold had had her way, and he himself had been sent to Rumania to help select the children who would come to Shfeyah.

When the ship finally docked, the teacher moved forward to receive his group. But as the Rumanians disembarked, a look of amazement crossed his face. Only a few of the children were familiar... Quickly he found Miss Szold. "These aren't the same children I saw in Rumania!" he whispered. "And most of them don't even look like children — they're at least 20 years old!"

Miss Szold pulled him out of earshot. "I know," she whispered back, "and you're not to tell a soul. Their papers are all in order — we saw to that — but Shfeyah must keep their secret. The younger children will still be able to come, but these were desperate to get out now. We had no choice..."

These were the Rumanian "children" who held a 20th-year reunion in Shfeyah, the place which had guarded their secret and which had been their first home in Palestine. And just as their spectacular arrival in '38 signified Shfeyah's inauguration as a Youth Aliya village, their recent visit found Shfeyah entering upon a new phase in its career.

Children's Village

Since 1934, Shfeyah has been a "children's village," a home and school for children from the ages of 10 to 18. Until last year, Shfeyah was under the sponsorship of the American Jewish Hadassah organization. (When sponsorship of the village was suggested to Junior Hadassah back in 1926, the reply was immediately — and biblical: "Em Habanim Smeicha" — The Mother of Children Rejoices).

Last year, Junior Hadassah found itself unable to continue its subsidies, and Hadassah, the senior organization, promptly stepped in. An agreement was signed between Hadassah and the Israel Ministry of Agriculture, making them partners in sponsorship of Meir Shfeyah.

Due to a combination of circumstances — Youth Aliya's current concentration on older children and the Ministry of Agriculture's interest in encouraging secondary agricultural education—Shfeyah is gradually changing from a children's village to a youth village. The lower elementary grades of the Shfeyah school are being eliminated, and more children of secondary school age — both local and Youth Aliya — are being admitted.

Meir Shfeyah is situated on a hill in the eastern Carmel mountains, two kilometres north-east of Zichron Ya'acov. The almost unbroken view of rolling hills in all directions, the aged beauty of the cypress groves planted by the first settlers, the crispness of the air and the very silence wrap the village in a cloak of isolation and serenity. "The physical setting alone has a therapeutic value," postulates a young teacher.

Shfeyah was originally settled in 1890 as a colony named for the grandfather of Baron de Rothschild, Meir Anschel, and the nearby Arab village of Shfeyah. After World War I, by which time most of Shfeyah's settlers had moved to the wine-producing town of Zichron, the J.D.C. opened an orphanage on the site. Shortly after, the orphanage became a children's village — for children of the Yishuv's poor or broken families.

Before the arrival of the Rumanian children in 1940, when Shfeyah accepted only social welfare cases of the local community — and since then, a period during which it has taken in hundreds of children from a score of countries and backgrounds, Shfeyah's major goal has been to be a "home."

Yosef Dashevsky, Shfeyah's 50-year-old sabra director, looks at it this way: "The poorest home in the world is better than none, but if there is no possibility of providing even a poor home, then the children's village must step in — and provide a good one." Yosef has been in Shfeyah for 25 years. He started as farm manager, lost an arm in a tractor accident and later became assistant director. His Yemenite wife, Estie, was brought up in Shfeyah.

Captured Hearts

Shfeyah's current farm manager, Avishai Haruvi, tries to analyze the reason for the village's success: "We've learned how to 'capture' the child's heart — before starting to educate him. The child knows this is more than a school. He knows we care about him."

Avishai, perhaps more than many of the Shfeyah staff, knows what "caring" means. Tall, brawny, fiercely handsome, he came to Shfeyah as an orphaned child of ten; except for a few years of study at Mikveh Israel and a tour of duty with the British army during World War II, Shfeyah has been his home. When he married a non-Shfeyahite, Avishai was ready to settle down as a truck driver in the city. But first he took his bride to the village for a visit, and she decided for the two of them: their children would grow up in Shfeyah.

This "caring" about children expresses itself in many ways. There's an aged Yemenite rabbi in neighbouring Zichron who has a special fondness for Shfeyah. During the period of heavy immigration from Yemen, Shfeyah took in several hundred children, and was frankly at a loss how to integrate them. The village staff decided to invite the Zichron rabbi to come and teach in the Shfeyah school. He lived for two years in the village, teaching by the same methods as the children had been taught in Yemen — thereby helping to bridge the gap between what they were used to, and the new environment of Israel.

Mending Souls

Shfeyah is proud of its long record of providing a "home for the homeless." There is an almost mystical belief among the staff in the village's power to mend souls, to turn problem-children into mature and useful adults. "We're more interested in creating human beings than in producing great intellects," says one of the "house mothers."

Director Dashevsky points with pride to the fact that there are some 20 juvenile delinquents on probation in Shfeyah. Their crimes include theft and sex offences, but no one in Shfeyah except Yosef knows who they are — and not one of them has caused any difficulty since arrival in the village.

With the new sponsorship of Shfeyah, far-reaching changes are bound to occur, though their precise nature has yet to be determined. But whatever its role is to be, Shfeyah hopes that armed with the devotion and conscientious skill which are part of its tradition it will be able to meet the challenge.

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B.B.'s Director Finds Israel Girls Extraordinary

By Joseph Eryk

AT the Ophir cinema in Tel Aviv this weekend, M. Christian Jacque was watching the premiere of his own "La loi c'est la loi" after having been introduced to the audience — and warmly applauded for saying that he admired Israelis for their intelligence and courage.

Later, in the hotel lobby, the nimble black-haired, eagle-nosed French motion picture director told us that "La loi c'est la loi" was especially dear to his heart because it pointed up how ridiculous frontiers were. Borders prevented people from knowing each other, and "What you don't know you fear, what you fear you hate, and what you fear and hate you think you have to wipe out."

What did he consider the main characteristic of French films?

"Approaching problems directly, feeling free to see things as they are and not as the censor would like them to be. The Germans too are rather naturalistic but they lack something" — here Christian Jacque made a rotating gesture with his hand — "something which inspires us and gives our films a certain charm and grace."

Why had he come to Israel?

He wanted to turn over a new leaf with the coming of 1959, after his rather painful separation from Martine Carol. He wanted to spend New Year in a country which held so many happy memories for him from his first fascinating visit two years ago.

Now he would like nothing better than make a film about Israel. Four scripts had already been submitted to him, many more promised. He had not make up his mind yet. He spent his time listening, watching, walking. His next film would be "Babette Goes to War" with Brigitte Bardot in the main part.

What did Bardot have that other girls didn't have?

"Ah, she does to people what an electromagnet does to iron filings. And not just to the French. The Americans are affected as well." But he, for a change, was not going to photograph her body so much. He would concentrate on her intelligence. In the studio she doesn't behave like a spoiled famous star. She is charming and gentle and accepts advice readily."

The last, unavoidable question concerned woman in Israel. His eyes lit up. He lifted his glass of orangeade, took a long sip, put the glass down again.

"They are extraordinary." He had watched them at Habimah during a performance of Hanna Senes. "They have so much personality, such self-confidence. They are athletic and military and still manage to keep their feminine charm."

And in comparison with the French?

"They are extraordinary. More eager, more full of life, more enthusiastic..."

CHRISTIAN JACQUE

Aid for Chronically Sick

By Ilana David

YESHAYAHU Armoni, the administrative director of Beit Meir, Keren Nehut's large Tuberculosis sanatorium, was tussling with a ticklish problem of professional rights. For some time past a barber from the neighbouring village had been doing all the hairdressing for the patients of the sanatorium. Recently one of the convalescents, a barber by profession, had begun to work amongst the patients. The village barber complained to his Trade Union. A representative of the Barbers' Union appeared. He demanded that the patient be stopped from infringing on the rights of the village barber. How should the hospital administration react to this demand? Yeshayahu's reply was unequivocal: We will never stifle a patient's will and desire to work.

This story typifies the spirit of the six hospitals operated by Keren Nehut (The Disability Fund) — a daughter organisation of Kupat Holim. These hospitals treat workers and their dependants who suffer from longterm diseases — tuberculosis, emotional disturbances, chronic invalidism. Whether treating the paraplegic patient or the victim of tuberculosis Keren Nehut has one aim — to teach the chronically sick to face life.

Beit Meir, commemorating the name of Dr. Joseph Meir, pioneer of social medicine, was completed in July 1956 after eight years of planning. This modern sanatorium for the treatment of lung disease is situated on the hilly outskirts of Kfar Saba. Today it accommodates 220 patients and serves in addition as a clinic for the screening of the entire population of the Sharon area (including the surrounding Arab villages.) Daily, groups of workers, especially from the food industry, teachers, children and pregnant women are examined.

The patient entering Beit Meir's spacious vestibule inevitably steps back in surprise. Surely this is the wrong place? This first impression of the hospital where he will be spending from eight to ten months does much to alleviate the heavy feeling that accompanies him. There is none of that chilling antiseptic whiteness that he anticipated.

Normal Atmosphere

The architectural and technical perfection that is the striking feature of this hospital is accompanied by an atmosphere of normal community living. One of the convalescents, a young man of 28, the gifted cartoonist of a weekly journal, 11 months at Beit Meir, explained the patient's point of view: "T.B. is a demoralising illness, keeping us away from our families and work for so long a stretch of time. Yet everything possible is done by the hospital workers to help us keep alive our interest in the outside world."

As Yeshayahu Armoni walks through the sanatorium the convalescents — two-thirds of the patients are ambulatory — bombard him with queries. What is the programme for the *Oneg Shabbat* this week? When will the English classes start? Why is there no full-length mirror on the premises? asks one smartly dressed woman. A botanist-patient comes forward with a suggestion. How about indexing the flowers and trees in Beit Meir's lush gardens?

With the progress in modern surgery and the use of anti-biotics in treatment the duration and ravages of lung diseases have been considerably reduced. Nevertheless the average sufferer must still be hospitalized for eight to ten months. The questions that irk every patient are: What of the future? Will I be able to return to my former employment? Building workers, bakers and cosmeticians have to acquire new skills. The hospital — staff, the social workers and a team of occupational therapists are at work helping to assure the patient of suitable employment on discharge. Courses are organised in light carpentry, draughtsmanship, weaving, dressmaking and bookkeeping. A number of patients have also been trained as laboratory and X-ray assistants. The success of these efforts can be judged from the fact that 85 per cent of patients discharged return to full or part-time employment.

Actress Gina Lollobrigida and her son Milko arrive in Rome during a brief visit from Spain, where Gina has been filming in "Solomon and Sheba."

Trouble with Tiles

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Stiff with Starch

A WEEK ago we received a letter from a reader which contained the following appeal:

"...please bring the following problem to the rostrum of your women readers: As much as I try to have my floor tiles look spotless and shining, they keep looking dull. They are washed regularly with detergents, and dirty spots are scrubbed with a brush — but all to no avail, to my continuous disappointment. Could anyone give me a hint what to do?"

If any of our housewife readers have had the same problem and have been able to overcome it, we'd be very happy to hear from them, and to publish their recommendations in this column in order to help our troubled reader.

STARCHING

WITH this very unseasonal weather with us for so long, many of us continue to wear cotton blouses and even cotton dresses and skirts. Which means that we are still starching clothing, as well as, of course, starching our household linens — pillowcases, tablecloths, serviettes, etc.

The aim in starching, as every housewife knows, is not simply to make the fabric stiff but to give the material the firmness it had when it was new. The fine glaze formed when starching also assists in keeping the article clean longer. How thick your starch should be depends on the texture of the fabric of the article you have washed. Finer texture mean a thinner starch solution; thicker material will take a less diluted starch.

There are two methods of starching — with cooked starch or with cold water starch. For rocket starch, mix one tablespoonful of starch into a smooth paste with three tablespoonfuls of cold water. Over this pour boiling water until the opaqueness of the starch paste disappears and the mixture is clear. Keep mixing all the time. You will then have full-strength starch. To suit your requirements, depending on the article you are starching, this starch will need to be diluted with cold water:

for bed linen and cotton dresses: 1 part full-strength starch to 6 of water.

for table linen, thin (or medium) or for cotton curtains: 1 part full-strength starch to 5 of water.

for aprons, overalls, etc.: 1 part full-strength starch to 3 of water.

For cold water starch, use two tablespoonfuls of powdered starch and mix to a smooth paste within three or four tablespoonfuls of water taken from a measured pint of water. After you have formed the paste, add the rest of the pint, stirring constantly. Let it stand for a while to soften the grains of starch. Cold-water starch is used for stiffening collars, cuffs and shirt fronts.

After you have rinsed your washing and wrung it out thoroughly, dip it in the required solution. A hot iron should be used for a smooth finish, and should be used by pressing moderately on the article.

While on the subject of starching, we have just tried out a new brand of starch, a Tnuva-Galam product called Zahava and containing "Laundrel" which also gives it a bleaching quality. It is a powdered starch, which facilitates exact measuring (as above). It comes in four different scents — Lavender, Tea Rose, Jasmine and Pine. We used Lavender, and it really added a pleasant fragrance to our linen — and to our linen cupboard! It left a fine surface glaze, easily ironed, and can be recommended.

More Triumphs with Tuna

By Molly Bar-David

IT seems that every time a few good cooks get together, the topic of conversation soon becomes "Tuna," and every good wife, it seems, has her own Tuna triumph. The versatility of this fish is apparently so great that it can go into almost any course except dessert! How different national groups in this country are quickly adapting the food to suit their own spicy or bland tastes is proof of the pudding. From a Hungarian housewife, I got a wonderful recipe for Goulash made out of the dark Tuna, which looks, tastes, smells and contains the same nutriments — almost — as the same dish made of beef. Then an Englishwoman taught me how to make "tinned salmon" patties out of Tuna. A French immigrant made a heavenly Bouillabaisse — the world's best fish soup. A Polish woman used it with carp in gefilte fish, with wonderful results. And the American visitor's Tuna Fish Pie — a recipe she makes at home—is just luscious.

Remember that the light and dark Tuna have different tastes, textures and tenderness, so try to use them separately.

Tuna Fish Goulash

1 kilo dark Tuna fish, 3 tbsps. oil, 1 large onion, chopped fine, 1 clove garlic, crushed, 1½ cup chopped tomatoes, 1½ tsp. paprika.

Cut the tuna into one inch cubes, roll in flour and a little salt, and then the paprika, and brown in the hot fat, then add the onions and fry a minute or two more. Add the chopped tomatoes. Turn the flame very low and simmer gently for about 20 minutes. If necessary, add just enough water to keep the sauce from drying up. Small potatoes may be cooked in the sauce with the fish.

Tuna Patties

½ kilo light Tuna fish, 3 matzoth crushed, 1 tsp salt, ¼ tsp. paprika, 1 cup milk, 1 onion, chopped, 1 tbsp, chopped parsley, 2 eggs.

Put the light tuna into a pot with the milk and cook for not more than five minutes (just long enough so that the fish will flake with two forks). Remove from stove, flake Tuna, and mix well with the crushed matzot, salt, paprika, onion and parsley and allow to cool. Add the beaten eggs (and if necessary, just a little more milk to absorb the matza). Shape into patties and fry in hot oil.

Tuna Bouillabaisse

½ kilo light Tuna fish, ½ kilo other fish, 1 small carrot sliced thin, 1 onion, sliced thin, 3 tbsps. margarine, ½ cup sliced tomatoes, 1 small bay leaf, 2 cups water, 1 tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. pepper, 1 tbsp. lemon juice, 1 tbsp. white wine, 1 clove garlic, crushed, 1 tbsp. chopped parsley.

Cook carrot, onion and garlic together in margarine until golden brown. Add fish, cut into pieces and cook a few minutes more. Add tomatoes, bay leaf and water. Simmer gently for 15 minutes until fish is tender. Add remaining ingredients and cook five minutes more. Add wine and serve at once (without further cooking) in a bowl over a soft piece of white bread. A pinch of mace or saffron (if you can get it) may be added for aroma to this dish.

Tuna Gefilte Fish

½ kilo light Tuna fish, ½ kilo carp, 2 onions, ½ celery root, 2 eggs, salt and pepper, slice of bread.

Grind the two kinds of fish, onion, celery root, together. Soak bread in water and then squeeze dry. Mix with the fish, add the egg, and seasoning. Now make a nest of more sliced onions and carrots, as well as celery stalks or leaves, in the bottom of a shallow pot. Make fishballs of the mixture and put these on the vegetable bed. Just cover with boiling water (pour it in close to the wall of the pot, so as not to break up the fish balls). Boil rapidly, well covered, for a few minutes. Then turn down the heat and cook very slowly for at least an hour, until water has almost evaporated.

Tuna Fish Pie

½ kilo light Tuna fish, ½ cup sliced green pepper, 1 small onion, sliced, 1 tbsps. oil, 2 tbsps. flour, ½ tsp. salt, 2 cups milk, 1 tbsp. lemon juice.

Put the green peppers, onion and fish into the oil in a pot, cut into cubes and fry until light brown. Add flour and stir until well blended; add salt and milk slowly, stirring all the time, until thick and smooth. Then slowly add the lemon juice. Pour this into a baking dish (or wooden pot) and cover with cheese rolls or other pastry.

Cheese Rolls For Pie

1¼ cups flour, 3 tsps. baking powder, ½ tsp. salt, dash of paprika, 3 tbsps. oil, ¼ cup grated yellow cheese, 2 red gambas, chopped (optional).

Mix first six ingredients. Roll out and sprinkle with grated cheese and chopped gamba. Roll like a jelly roll and cut into eight slices, flatten slightly and place on top of tuna fish in baking dish. Bake in a hot oven (450 F) until brown (about 20 minutes).

As They Say in Japan...

'Ohairi Nasai'— Please Come In

By Esther Altman

WHEN one day recently my husband came home and said, "We'll be having two Japanese guests with us for a few days," I was both delighted and concerned. All the normal anxieties of a hostess fluttered through my mind — did I have enough linen, glass and cutlery? — would our old-fashioned hot water heater work properly? — would my daily help arrive on her regular days? — and what should I provide in the way of food? — where would the visitors hang their clothes?

My husband, who had been a guest in many Japanese homes after the war, and has since studied Japan's language and culture, was undisturbed by this rush of questions, and as it turned out, my worries were completely groundless.

Our two guests were the Japanese musicians who came to Israel at the end of last month for a brief goodwill series of recitals. They had been to Paris for a UNESCO festival of music and to London, and had broken their return journey home to see Israel, about which they had heard so much. The senior of the two, Mr. Shinichi Yuize, 36, is a virtuoso player of the *koto*, a 13-stringed, six-foot long instrument, and a composer, who has studied composition and orchestration under Dr. Henry Cowell at Columbia University in New York, and has given recitals in the British Isles and on the Continent as well as in the U.S. He was accompanied on this tour by Mr. Hosan Yamamoto, 21, who despite his youth, is one of the most accomplished players of the *shakuhachi*, a bamboo flute, in Japan today, and a frequent performer on the Japanese radio and television.

They were among the most delightful guests we have ever had. From the first moment, they settled into our home as part of the family, with the added pleasure of becoming helpful participants in all that went on.

As for cuisine, I had not the slightest cause for worry. Breakfast was Western-style — fruit juice, fresh citrus, scrambled eggs, toast and black coffee. But the luncheon and dinner arrangements were taken out of my hands and we had Japanese-style food prepared and cooked by Yuize San. My husband and I willingly served as assistants, washing and cutting the vegetables while being initiated into the art of Japanese cooking. Our guest handled the more serious items — the chicken and the fish (cod fillet), prepared the soup, the soy sauce mixed with lemon juice and a dash of monosodium glutamate (which the Japanese housewife knows as *ajinomoto*) and the rice.

When I offered him a kitchen apron, I was shown how the problem of cooking while wearing the wide-sleeved kimono is solved. He produced a long, thick cord which is first laid over the shoulders, then crossed at the chest, and as it is pulled in tightly at the back, it takes with it the width of the sleeves, leaving the hands and arms free to work. The apron was simply an extra precaution against spotting his clothes.

The food, semi-cooked in the kitchen (which he tidied as he worked), was completed at the dinner table on our portable electric range. With the addition of chopsticks and small bowls for the rice, the final oriental touch was added to the meal. Before eating, our guests bowed slightly and said "Itadakimasu" ("We humbly accept your food") — another Japanese custom which I learned during their stay.

The meal, like all those prepared by Yuize San (and he gave us five different recipes) was tasty, exciting to the palate and quite new to me. Japanese food retains all the goodness in fish, meat and vegetables, is very colourful and pleasing to the eye, has little or no fat or grease, and after the initial preparation, which does take time, is ready in only a short while.

Our dinner ended with green tea served in our Japanese tea service. The cups are tiny and without handles and each diner is served three cups — the first, if I remember correctly, for its fragrance, the second for its colour and the third for its sharpness. To watch Yuize San preparing and pouring the tea was a special delight — every movement made with delicacy and charm.

Japanese people have a grace and quietness of movement that might well be emulated. Our guests moved about the house gaily and happily but soundlessly in their soft slippers. Sometimes we hardly knew they were there.

The problem of where to hang the clothes of two more men in the house evaporated from the very outset. In fact, it never really existed. The Japanese kimono is carefully folded in a special manner and stored away on shelves or in cupboards. Our musician guests simply folded their garments neatly and put them in their suitcases. As an example of meticulous care and labour-saving, this custom is unsurpassed—nothing was creased, nothing needed pressing, and the visitors always appeared in spotless attire.

One afternoon, when dusk was settling over Jerusalem, the two musicians favoured us with a private concert. They had already played for our friends at an evening reception, seated on two large yellow cushions, one wearing a white silk kimono, the other attired in formal black and brown. But on that quiet late afternoon, seated within the beige circle of light of a single lamp, they played an old piece from 17th century Japan set to a passage from the "Tale of Genji," and in contrast, a more modern piece to another section from that famous 11th century novel, composed by Yuize San himself.

We had green tea seated on cushions while the moon rose in the eastern sky and light filtered through our bamboo shades. My husband rose to raise one so as to get a better view of the moon, but Yuize San stopped him. "The moon is more beautiful glimpsed through the shade."

This was the old Japanese appreciation of the beauty concealed in the quieter, subtler manifestations of natural beauty. He told us that though he had acquired many of the ways of the West while studying abroad, he still had a deep love of the older, more truly Japanese manner of feeling. Though his compositions bore the marks of Western modes, he still preferred the native Japanese style.

On the other hand, Yamamoto San, whose first name is actually Yasumasa—"Hosan" being his artistic name — prefers jazz and Western classical music, though he was brought up in the traditional manner in a small town not far from the ancient capital of Kyoto. He makes the trip up to Tokyo about once a month for a *koto* lesson from Yuize San, who has a busy teaching schedule.

As they left us, each in his own way told us, "As soon as I came into your house, I thought — this is my home." No hostess could wish to hear sweeter words.

A gracious note came the other day from the Japanese Legation in Tel Aviv thanking us for looking after the two artists, but I feel that it is we who should thank them for their exciting company, and look forward to their return some day.

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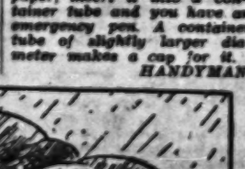

Do you have a drawerful of old ball-point pens, acquired from abroad, for which refills cannot be obtained in Israel? Do not despair, with a few simple tools and a bit of ingenuity, nearly all of them can be adapted to use Israel-made refills. According to the particular design of pen, try the following:

- *If the pen is too long, shorten the plastic part by sawing or filing off a few milimetres, so that the pen will work with shorter refills than the original design.*
- *If the pen is too short, shorten the refill by sawing, filing or cutting with pliers.*
- *The head of a nail and a few milimetres of its shank or a suitably shaped piece of wood inserted in the top of the refill, will provide a suitable surface for the "push-button" to press against.*
- *Some foreign pens were built to take plastic-tubed refills. Cut a couple of centimetres off an old plastic refill and use it to cap a new brass refill.*
- *With pliers, pinch the top end of a refill that it too wide so that it will grip the pin of the "push-button." Also with pliers, flatten the shank of the refill at the appropriate point, to serve as a "stop" for the recoil spring.*

If your pen still does not work don't despair: you can buy a new one for less than a pound.

Incidentally, the plastic tubes in which refills are now sold also have their uses. You can wrap a refill in paper, insert it into a container tube and you have an emergency pen. A container tube of slightly larger diameter makes a cap for it.

HANDYMAN

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Diary of a Housewife

By Hadassah Ben-Haim

SON says he can't help with clearing the table just now as he is doing something. Have a look at what he is doing and see that he is trying to fit the top of a screw-top jar onto the light switch and it requires enormous skill and a delicate balance if it is not to fall off again. This is known in our house as a *patzke*, a word of obscure origin but one having a clear meaning and, as an occupation, several strict and confining rules.

•

THE primary principle is that it must be utterly and absolutely useless. Objects that turn out to have an application, however fantastic or impractical, are at once disqualified. It must also take up time and/or skill and energy which is needed elsewhere. It may also be expensive—this puts it in a better class but is not essential—like making holes in a linen serviette with a fork, or dirty, like smearing patterns of beer onto a polished surface, or harmful, like dropping bits of combustible material onto an open flame, or all three, like smoking, which is one of the finest *patzkes* ever invented.

•

TRYING to make a pencil stand upright, balancing a teaspoon on the edge of a cup and drawing patterns on the tablecloth are all minor and very common manifestations. Trying to balance a chair on one leg is also very often attempted by unoriginal practitioners. Much time can be wasted stretching thin rubber bands round objects which are obviously too large, like teapots or telephones, and they can usually be relied upon to snap with a fair chance of breaking things. Books, too if you don't want to bother reading them, can waste many a happy hour which could be profitably expended elsewhere, if you use them to build houses, or to achieve different and improbable feats of balance. It often damages the books too, which puts the action into the superior class of *patzke*.

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OF course *patzke*, like beauty, is often in the eye of the beholder. It depends, to coin a phrase, on your point of view. For my part I consider all card games, table games and horse racing as second and third class *patzkes* according to how expensive they turn out. Head of the House, on the other hand, maintains that chess and bridge are intellectual exercises, but crossword puzzles (the kind that do not offer prizes) are a very inferior *patzke*. Reading is also so considered by a great many people I know.

•

BUT there is one *patzke* that stands head and shoulders above any other and has yet to be beaten in any field. It is expensive, time-consuming, dirty, irritating, and, according to many dieticians, positively dangerous. Refer of course to eating, which I and many fellow housewives hope will shortly be abolished by law if economic necessity does not force us to break this habit before legislation can be enforced.

Pen Friends

JEANNE GARL, 22, of 250 White Pond Dr., Akron, Ohio, U.S.A. is looking for a correspondent in Israel. Likes horseback and likes pets.

OTTO WILLEM, Karhitie 4p 4, Finland, is a stamp collector looking for an Israel collector to exchange Scandinavian stamps with.

MRS. CECILIA WEINSTOCK (42) of 15 Grandon House, Shore Pl, London, E.9, seeks a pen friend in Israel.

SUE LEVINE, 2024 Bergen Avenue, Bethpage, Long Island, N.Y., U.S.A., requests a girl pen pal about 12 or 13 years old.

DOCTOR'S NOTEBOOK

Longing For A Baby

By Dr. Elisha Yaron

SINCE time immemorial and in most societies, no one has been more unfortunate than the barren woman. The Bible has many references to the subject and for most nations such sterility has been regarded as a punishment from above if not the intervention of evil supernatural powers. Long suspected, but proved only in recent years, was the fact that in many cases the husband was to "blame" more than the wife and an examination of both the childless couple is nowadays regarded as essential.

Frequently the wife is normal but the number of sperm produced by her husband is too low. The sperm die within a day or two, the egg (or ovum) dies within 12 hours and thus conception is only possible for a few short hours each month. Couples who go to their doctor because of infertility are usually advised to pay special attention to the "fertile" phase of the monthly cycle in order to increase the chances of fertilisation. But when is the fertile phase?

Fertile Period

The release of the ovum, or ovulation as it is called, occurs somewhere midway between the periods, about the 12th to 16th days. Thus the orthodox woman observing the ritual laws of purification returns to her husband at

the beginning of the fertile period. When it is important to pinpoint the precise time of ovulation the problem is not so simple.

It has long been thought that a slight rise in temperature accompanies ovulation. Women would carefully measure their temperatures twice a day and a sudden shift would indicate the onset of the fertile phase. Or so it was thought. Many women have succeeded in becoming pregnant in this way but many others have not.

Temperature Rise

Research workers in England recently showed that the temperature rise is indeed associated with ovulation — but comes after it, too late, that is, for successful conception. There has been a determined search in many countries for accurate methods of assessing the time of ovulation. Some have been found but they are beyond the reach of the average patient or the average doctor. They require careful day-by-day measurement of hormones in the patient's urine by tests which are time-consuming and expensive.

Recently, however, a new method, amazing in its simplicity, has been discovered. It seems that at the time of ovulation the amount of glucose sugar increases in the secretions of the womb. What easier way than to take a drop of these secretions and test it on a piece of special test paper? If the paper turns blue, glucose is present and ovulation has just occurred.

Self Test

An American doctor has now modified the method so that the woman herself can perform the test without need of going to the doctor. A small advance in science perhaps, but one that will help bring happiness to many a thousand childless couples.

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BRIDGE

By JERUSALEMITE

Letting George Do It

	S. A 6 5 4 3 H. A Q 9 D. K C. Q 7 6 4	
S. Q 10 H. J 8 4 D. Q 10 8 7 4 3 2 C. 9	N W E S	S. J 9 8 3 H. K 8 7 6 D. A C. 10 9 5 3
	S. K 7 H. 10 3 2 D. J 9 6 5 C. A K J 8	

THE above game, played in the first round of the Tel Aviv Individual Tournament, has a point of interest.

The North-South pair has enough high cards to warrant reaching full game. Game was bid at seven out of the eight tables. One North landed in four spades and was tripped by the uneven trump break; the others called three no-trumps, and only two Souths, who were careful enough to go after the spades, romped home.

At table number one the auction also stopped at three no-trumps with South as declarer, East won the first diamond, and declarer registered surprise at his switch to a low spade. Reckoning that the suit would not divide favourably, he decided to gamble on finding both hearts on-side. He negligently took the spade in dummy, entered his hand with a club and led a heart to dummy's nine. Surprise number two: the nine was allowed to hold, but only after enough huddling by East to mark him with the possession of the king. Declarer thereupon reentered his hand with another club, and this time West showed out.

By this time South had recovered sufficiently to grasp that East was probably out of diamonds. He was still a trick short and could try to establish a long spade; but dummy was just short of an entry card.

South found a way out of the impasse. He cashed the king of spades and took all the clubs, finishing in dummy. East was next allowed to win a spade; but the compulsory return of a heart into dummy's tenace was countered with another spade, and South chalked up his ten tricks for a top score.

And then came my rude awakening. While I was dreaming up this line of play, my partner shrugged his shoulders and, after the king of spades, took a second heart finesse; East pounced on the trick and forced the ace, and the game collapsed for a tied bottom.

THE position after the first round is:

Sorger first.
Mrs. Gutman second.

Chess

January 9, 1959

Problem No. 1257
B.B. Wertheim, Haifa
1st Place, Israel-Sweden Match

Kg6; Qf7; Rb5; Bf1; Kh4, Kf3; Pc5, d4. (3)
Ke4; Bc1; Pb7, a6. (4)

White mates in two

Problem No. 1258
J. Knoppel, Lüdingo
1st Place, Israel-Sweden Match

Kc1; Qd5; Re1, Rh7; Ba3; Kte5, Kf3; Pc6, e4, f5, g4. (11)
Kf4; Ba1; Kte6; Pa3, c5, e2, e3, g2, g3. (9)

Selfmate in three

One of Israel's outstanding successes in the problem world was its victory in the composing match with Sweden, one of the strongest Problemist's Associations. In the two-moves section (16 entries, judge G.H. Dreze, Holland) the score was Israel 60, Sweden 57, but in the selfmates section (18 entries judge J. A. Rusek, Poland) Israel gained a comfortable lead of 96.75 making the total score 165:142 in our favour. At present the I.P.A. is engaged in a match against Denmark, with H. Hermansen of Sweden and L. Loshinski of the USSR, as judges.

Other recent international successes include Uri Avner's third prize in the FIDE tourney and Uri Grinblat's ninth honourable mention. In the three-move section Arieh Grinblat won second honourable mention (10th place) while Rafi Rush won a commend in the helpmates. J. Retter and Z. Heilbut won seventh and eighth honourable mentions respectively in the 1957 "Problemblad" (Dutch Association) tourney. In the 100-theme tourney of the same association, Z. Heilbut won the only honourable mention. In the yearly tourney of the Yugoslavian "Problem," the most important publication in the problem world and the official organ of the International Problem Board, Uri Avner won fourth honourable mention and D.R. Wertheim won fourth commend. R.C.F. 1957/58 international tourney gave J. Retter third prize (our 1201) while J. Goldschmidt won a first commend in the British 1957 "Ring" tourney (our 1209). J. Retter scored yet another outstanding success by winning the second prize in the Czech theme tourney.

Solutions. Problem No. 1203 (Talmi): 1. Bd3—Sugawang. 1.—Kth6 2.Re7; 1.—Ktf6 2.Kth4+ Ke6 3.Re7; 1.—Kte7 2.Be4+ Ke6 3.Rf6x. Problem No.1204 (Fotcheckin): 1.Be4! "A give-and-take key leads to three continuation threats, followed by three secondary self-blocks from the capture of the W.R., the mate for each being elegantly separated in Stocchi-like fashion. Rather a pity that the key was forced on the composer, as it detracts from a beautiful composition" (Judge's award).

The Most Interesting Game

The following game was awarded a special prize as the most interesting one played in Portoroah. It was played in the 17th round.

Game No. 768

White: Tal	Black: Fuster
1.e4 c5 2.Ktf3 Kte6 3.Bb5 cd 4.Bxe6 Bxt6 5.0-0 Bg7 6.Re1 b6 7.Bb3 Qb7 8.c3 0-0 9.h3 Ktb7 10.d4 Kth5 11.Bc2 c4 12.c4 Ktc6 13.Be3 c5 14.d5 d6 15.Ktd2 Kthe4 16.Qd3 f5 17.Bb2 f4 18.Bd3 Kt:b2 19.Kte6 Kt:a1 20. Kt:d8 Bf6 21. Qf3 Ra:d8 22.R:e7 R:e7 23.B:f6 R:e4 24.Qg4 Bg6 25.Qe4+ Rf7 26. Qd5 Ktc3 27.b4 Bg6 28.R:f7+ K:f7 29.Rb6+ K:b6 30.Q:f4+ Kg6 31.b:c bc 32.e5 Be4 33.b4+ Kg4 34.Kb2 Rd8 35.Qd6 h6 36.Qe5 Re4 37.Qe7+ Kf3 38.Qe8+ Kte3 39.Kc1 Re4 40.f:e h5 41.Qe1 R:e5. Black resigns.

Aloni At His Best

Israel's outstanding achievement at Munich was perhaps its win over West Germany. Aloni brought off a fine win and a well-deserved point against Pfeiffer.

Game No. 779

White: Pfeiffer	Black: Aloni
1.d4 Ktf6 2.c4 e6 3.Ktf3 d5 4.e3 Kte7 5.Ktc3 c6 6.Bd3 Ktd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.e4 d:e 9.B:e4 c5 10.Be5 b6 11.Bh4 Qc7 12.Bh3 c:d4 13.Kt:d4 Ktc5 14.Ktf5 B:f5 15.e:f Rad8 16. Of3 Be6 17.Bc2 Rd2 18.Rae1 Rfd8 19.Rfd1 Qc7 20.R:d2 R:d2 21.b4 Ktc6? 22.Be3 Rd3 23.b:c Qe5 24. Rb3 Qd4 25.Re1 Rd3 26.Re3 Q:c5 27.R:d3 Qe1+ 28.Kh2 Kte5! White resigns.

International Events

Our international was by far the most important event of them all. Reporting on the results the Russian "Sovjetski Sport" makes special mention of the fact that it was the first international tournament held in this country. Here are the results of the other events:

The British "Open" championship, held under the Swiss system with 36 participants was won by Donner (Holland) with the excellent score of 10½ points out of 11. He was followed by Perez (Spain) 9, Wade (England) and Kluger (Hungary) 8½, etc.

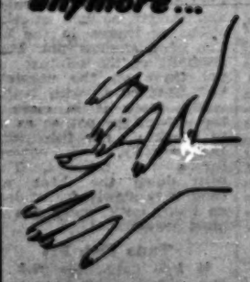
In Santarem (Portugal) Spain's Pomar was first with 12 out of 13 in front of his countryman Sanz 9½, Duran (Port) and Frank (Belgium) 7½, Paoli (Italy) 6½, etc.

La Valette (Malta) international saw Lehman (West Germany) emerging victor with 9½ points out of 10. Yugoslavia's Karaklaic was the runner-up with 9 pts.

Poland and Rumania met in an eight board Scheveningen system match (members of one team play in turn all the members of the opposite team), the latter winning the event by 32:21. We might add that the match was held between the "fair sex" teams of the two countries.

The traditional Moscow-Leningrad match was held in the central chess club in Moscow. The huge struggle (30 players on each team including ten women) resulted, surprisingly enough, in a 40:40 draw (each member played his opponent two games). Top board results: Smyslov 1 — Spassi 1 (two draws), Bronstein 1—Korchnoi 1 (ditto), Averbach 1 — Tahanov 1, Kotov 1—Tolush 1, Flohr 1—Bondarevsky 1½, Lilienthal 1—Furman 1½. 77 grandmasters, 40 masters and 19 candidates to master took part in the event.

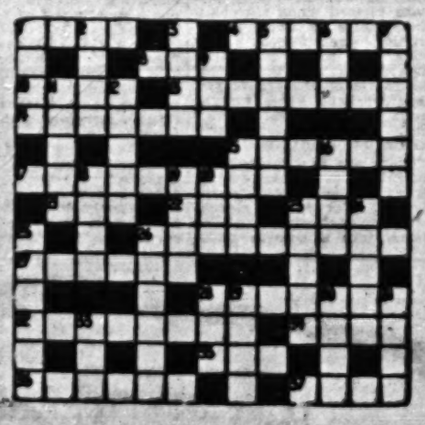
Your hands won't suffer anymore...



thanks to **Anuga** SHEMEN'S *helpful hand cream*

Cordianine

POST Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS. — 1. Does he have the key to cricket? 4. Communicating, with electricity? 8. The sort of friend a girl likes. 10. It's grand to get free from a grating. 13. Almost serve refreshments for men in uniform. 14. Works for one of two musicians. 15. Descriptive of modern power. 17. Place sand in a way to make a picture. 21. Marshal in the money. 22. Minced roe. 23. French friend. 25. Journalistic group concerned with recruiting? 27. All the river has charm. 28. A drink for the pilot? 32. It's obvious where you wear them. 34. Always part of the very "to be." 35. Ancient. 36. A cheap mixture for a ruffian. 37. At a penny a drink, it takes a bit of beating!

DOWN. — 1. Slog with great big bits of wood. 2. A Chinese feature? 3. Flower girl? 5. Asterisk. 6. Incorporated. 7. Fail. 11. 9. Agreeable reply. 11. Was he more than human? 12. Fine fellow. 15. Animals noted for their unoriginal actions. 16. Stuttering parent? 18. You may think of her as being sweet. 19. Many a mineral gives us heart. 20. Poincare's last word. 23. Open-mouthed. 24. I run up with a letter just to get used to it. 26. The Turk finished off the wine. 29. Talk about a perch? 30. In the shadows. 29. Fair part of the Shetlands? 30. May be a maiden. 31. In which to ride back to market? 32. Extinct bird.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS. 1. (make a) Dash. 4. Carter. 8. Tom cat). 10. (collar) Stud. 12. Last post. 14. Chrodoc. 15. Sample. 17. Punch-bowl. 21. Bus. 22. Era. 23. P.R.O. 24. Greyhound. 27. Resort. 28. Pointer. 32. Con-fused. 34. Date. 35. Tip. 36. (baby) Sitter. 37. Past.

DOWN. — 1. Dist. 2. Spur. 3. Solo. 4. Actual. 6. Two. 7. Rather. 9. Mac (intosh). 11. Tar-us. 12. Dance. 13. Sway. 16. Pera. 18. Nuts. 19. Sort (rant). 20. Ora. 22. Pound. 24. On-set. 26. Bricks. 28. Grouse. 29. Pot. 30. O-dis. 31. Tu-te. 33. Rest. 35. No-t.

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